

THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

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Eccelesiastical Affairs.

NAT. NONCON'S MONOLOGUES.

A WEEPING CHRISTMAS.

Few, very few, are they whose spirits are not affected by the weather. As the chameleon takes the prevailing tint of its own vicinity, so are the spirits of Englishmen bright or gloomy according to the aspect of the skies. "A merry Christmas" seems, by a sort of necessity, to presuppose a dry, if not a frosty, one. Warmth and wet combined—unseasonable warmth, and Crimean wet—have a sad tendency to deprive one of physical elasticity. At any rate, such is the case with me. And, really, it costs uncommon effort to realise the fact, that human affairs in general, or any special section of them in particular, do not change with our changing moods—that good does not immediately become evil when concealed from our view by an intervening cloud—that evil does not become good because the sun shines upon it—that our relations, our duties, our moral obligations, and resources, are just what they are, however our views of them may be altered. It is difficult to realize this—but it ought to be done. Therefore, "away with melancholy"—and like Mark Tapley, let us be "jolly, under creditable circumstances."

"A weeping Christmas" I have called the day just gone by. Meteorologically, was it not so? In the neighbourhood of London it certainly was. The earth was so sodden with previous rains, that even if the morning had dawned in splendour, the family excursion would have been anything but a pleasurable expedition. But the morning held out no deceitful promises. It was scowling and defiant. Once, indeed, a sickly smile passed over the face of the heavens—but it was quickly followed by murkier gloom. Noon witnessed a deluge of rain. It came down in pitiless torrents. It seemed to damp one even by the cheerful fireside. And then, one's thoughts, sped thither by a natural law of association, hovered over the "camp before Sebastopol," and saw many thousands of our brave countrymen, ill clad, over worked, under fed, spending their days in the trenches up to their knees in water, or their nights in picquet duty exposed to drenching showers of rain, sleet, and snow, and lying down to rest, wrapped up in a wet blanket, under cover of rotting canvass, upon a soil saturated with moisture. Fancy did nothing to mend the matter, as far as my own spirits were concerned, nor did the contents of the daily journal. Everything external was depressing.

But "a weeping Christmas" does not, after all, determine the character of the year which it closes, nor necessarily throw its gloom over the year which is to follow it. Whether we look backwards or forwards, we have, so far as ecclesiastical affairs are concerned, something to be grateful for, and much to hope. A short comfortless season, happily, cannot reverse the progressive character of twelve months' action, nor project mischance over the anticipated scope of the next twelve months' duty. While we mope, the great drama of life moves steadily on. Behind us and before us the road is still the same, whether we are gay or grave.

Spite of rain, wind, storm above me,—spite of mire, puddle, plash, underfoot—spite of animal

spirits unbraced by weather—spite of an immediate position overclouded by war—my judgment, refusing to be misled by mere sympathy, assures me of decided progress during the past year—progress which may be temporarily suspended, but which cannot be reversed. I dwell not upon details. I estimate none of them at a high rate for its own sake. I look at, and care for them, chiefly as they are significant of something far better than the whole of them put together. I cast my eye back upon the records of 1854, and I discern in them cumulative evidence of another temper in regard to things ecclesiastical than had been previously apparent, if, indeed, it was existent. Whereas the conduct of authority, whether civil or ecclesiastical, clerical or lay, towards Protestant Dissent, used to be peremptory, contemptuous, dogmatical, and insolent—whereas it seldom cared to square itself by reason, and never stooped to give one—whereas it knew no fear, laughed at all alarms, and deemed the Church Establishment impregnable—I detect many signs among the occurrences of the year that such is the case no longer. The causes of this change let others demonstrate—I take my stand upon the change itself. It is obvious. It is notorious. It is full of promise. It is not unimportant in itself—but it is immeasurably more important in its indications.

The grand difference between State-Churchism as it was not long since, and as it now is, consists in the consciousness it exhibits of its being a disputed power—all the difference, in fact, which may be observed in the tone and manner of a man laying down the law before his own partizans, and stating his case in the presence of an opponent. Mr. Blether, sitting in his own dining-room with none but Mr. Blether's professed admirers for his audience, is, as occasion serves, playful and saucy, or boastful and contemptuous. But Mr. Blether, in public meeting or committee, with his adversaries before him, is deferential and apologetic, argumentative and complimentary. Protestant Dissent is no longer treated as an absent antagonism—neither by Parliament, nor by the press. It may not be strong enough to do as it lists. It may be obliged to request where it has a right to command. But, at least, its presence is felt and acknowledged. It is a power which, if not quite so politically formidable as it may be and by become, is nevertheless not to be ignored. There it stands—a visible reality—there where nothing connected with it stood in former times—and if it be not tall enough to frighten, nor strong enough to overthrow, it is not impossible that it should become so. It cannot be forgotten. It cannot be dealt with as if it were non-existent. What is said must be said with some reference to what it can reply—what is proposed must be proposed with some reference to what it can help to defeat. Its known views must be discussed, or, at least, alluded to, as an element for consideration in all that relates to ecclesiastical legislation. Even when silent its influence is felt. It is thought of in the council chamber of the Cabinet. It modifies ministerial language and ministerial measures. It has even been able to inflict on a too careless Government a shameful defeat. All this has come to light during the past year. And the change of feeling wrought by the discovery is incalculable. This alone will serve to make 1854 a year of grateful recollections to the friends of religious liberty.

But the same fact has operated most cheerily in another way. Protestant Dissent begins to feel that it is in presence of an antagonist, and its morale has become higher accordingly. It is passing forward from the stage of religious speculation into the sphere of practical principle. It has become conscious that it must do as well as dream. It is putting off its boudoir fastidiousness, and adapting itself to actual service. It has dropped the abject demeanour of a poor relation, and thinks and speaks and acts with some show of self-respect. And in action, it is less disunited than it was—less exacting of its friends—less unnerved before its foes. It has become better acquainted with its

own strength. It relies less on noise, and believes more in work. Hopelessness has ceased to oppress and benumb its faculties. It sees and recognises a chance, even if somewhat distant, of success. This, and more than this, has been distinctly visible to my mind in the events of the year just about to close. It is a change of spirit—and although it has done little as yet to make itself remembered, it deserves to be hailed with thankfulness and joy.

If, instead of looking back, I glance forward, I see nothing to disturb, much less to dismay. The war, by absorbing all public interest, may retard present progress—but not, if the interval be well employed, materially prevent it. Dissent may avail itself of such an interval to strengthen its own position—to exercise its newly-awakened powers—to sharpen its faculties—to perfect its modes of action. It has obtained a footing of honour—it must keep it. There are no signs, that I am aware of, to indicate that it will be unusually difficult to do so. The year that approaches cannot be said to hold out less expectations than did the year that departs. Vigilance and perseverance can accomplish more than we think. They have outstripped our anticipations in 1854—why should they not also in 1855? Well, we will hope. Rain must not spoil us—"a weeping Christmas" must not unman us. Our courage must come from within—from faith in a good cause, consciousness of a good motive, and trust in a good result. Lo! already the clouds are gone—the air is exhilarating—the sun shines—Hurrah! Long live all that ought to live!

THE REGIUM DONUM—REJOINDER OF DR. WILSON.

The following letter in reply to that of Dr. Foster, lately inserted in our columns, appears in the *Londonderry Standard* of the 21st December, to the editor of which journal it is addressed. We shall next week extract an article from the same paper showing that the Irish Presbyterians are already becoming seriously alarmed at the prospect of a persistent agitation against the *Donum*.

To the Editor of the Londonderry Standard.

SIR,—The prudent retirement of Mr. Bright from the *Regium Donum* controversy, provoked by himself, obviously placed in an uncomfortable position numbers of his Voluntary supporters, who confidently anticipated the hon. gentleman's easy triumph over the endowments of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. It were almost useless to speculate on the causes which may have constrained Mr. Bright to adopt a course so annoying to a considerable body of his friends and supporters. To a politician, who claims large credit for manliness and impartiality, it was doubtless galling to stand before the world the convicted slanderer and false accuser of Irish Presbyterians; and if the officious instructions of London or country Voluntaries reduced Mr. Bright to this unhappy condition, the light within may have irresistibly prompted him to put a connexion so damaging to his public character. Or, perhaps our pacific friend has found still more congenial occupation in upholding the character of the ambitious and sanguinary despot of Russia, and withdrawing national sympathy from the widows and orphans of our brave soldiers, whose blood has flowed in defence of the liberties of Europe! But, from whatever cause, Mr. Bright has positively declined to continue the controversy; and as the "Society for the Liberation of Religion," &c., is to some extent responsible for his statements, and therefore compromised by his declination, it has attempted a reply to me under the signature of "Charles J. Foster," Chairman of its Parliamentary Committee. Waiving all idle formalities, I shall take leave to deal with this document as the *Society's* defence of Mr. Bright, or, at least, the best aid it can afford to the cause of a discomfited though zealous champion.

1. The most laboured and the weakest part of the *Society's* defence—where all is elaborate weakness—consists in the abortive, and not very creditable, effort to pervert the plain testimony of Dr. Candlish. The Doctor, according to Mr. Bright, "described this grant as the hush-money of the State to the Presbyterians." What grant? Clearly the grant of Regium Donum to Irish Presbyterians, which alone formed the subject of discussion in the House of Commons. I challenged the statement, and demanded Mr. Bright's

authority. What was the reply?—He produced the testimony of Dr. Candlish, in which the term hush-money was applied, not to the Irish Regium Donum at all, but to an imaginary or hypothetical grant, which might at some future time be possibly offered to the Free Church of Scotland! Such evidence has not the remotest bearing on the point, and the extract now paraded by the Society labours under the same radical and transparent disqualification. The construction which these parties persist in forcing upon his testimony, in defiance of all candour and common sense, Dr. Candlish has himself denounced as "the merest sophistry." Nay more; in relation to this very evidence, Dr. Candlish, addressing our General Assembly in 1844, said—"We never entertained a doubt as to your right to receive the *Regium Donum*. We never thought it wrong in you to take it."—Can a mind honestly seeking for truth misunderstand the meaning of language so completely removed from the region of vagueness and ambiguity?

2. Defeated on this point of testimony, the Society has recourse to what I call, with all due respect, a shift or evasion. Dr. Candlish, it is adroitly insinuated, ought to have stigmatised our *Regium Donum* as hush-money, because, in circumstances alleged to be analogous, we have accepted that State support, the very idea of which he contemplated as a degradation to the Free Church. This forms a new issue, and is not for a moment to be confounded with Dr. Candlish's evidence, which manifestly supports the Irish grant. In meeting this forlorn hope view of the case, we distinctly deny the existence of those analogous circumstances on which the Society has founded its sapient conclusion. When Dr. Candlish so eloquently repudiated a *Regium Donum in posse*, his repudiation was expressly based on the asserted claim of the Free Church to be the established Church of Scotland; but Irish Presbyterians never professed to be the established Church of Ireland, their ministers enjoying the tithes in their respective parishes without sacrifice of religious principle or ecclesiastical polity. The difference is evidently essential. In this position, it was neither degradation on the one side, nor an insult on the other, to accept from the Crown or from Parliament a moderate compensation. "I am sorry," says the Society's representative, "to find from Dr. Reid's History, that when Thurloe took away the tithes and offered you salaries instead, it was avowedly to 'restrain some troublesome spirits' among you, and that you gave way, considering it 'necessary that ministers be maintained.'" The writer is in error. It was not Thurloe, but Fleetwood, a zealous Anabaptist, and possessed of little information regarding Ulster Presbyterians, who described "our fathers" as troublesome spirits; and the authority referred to does not sustain the Society in affirming that Thurloe adopted the sentiment, much less than it formed the avowed reason for superseding the tithes by direct payment from the treasury. Like the London Society of the present day, Fleetwood, largely substituting prejudice for knowledge, considered "the Presbytery" very troublesome spirits, because forsooth they issued a solemn and able protest against the trial and execution of King Charles by the "Rump Parliament," as horrible and unprecedented, and because they refused conscientiously to come under ENGAGEMENT to the Republic, and soon after to the Protectorate. So formidable was this paper deemed that Milton by command of the authorities, prepared an answer, which may be fairly characterised as more abusive than satisfactory. But did not Presbyterians accept State support under the very Government to which they so strongly objected? I meet the taunt by simply stating that, though the Government provision generally far exceeded the amount of the tithes, Presbyterians laboured earnestly and long with the Irish Council for the maintenance of the latter, but were overpowered by the united faction of the Baptists and Independents, who resolved that ministers of all recognised denominations should be paid out of the public treasury. State interference in temporalities, in effect belonged essentially to both modes of ministerial support, and hence the exchange of the one for the other involved no matter of principle; yet that Presbyterians were slow to fall in with the new arrangement is evinced by the fact, that in a list of 148 ministers who received the *Donum* from Cromwell's Government, about 6 are known to have been Presbyterians, 12 Episcopalians, and the remaining 130 BAPTISTS and INDEPENDENTS!! Have our modern Nonconformists profited in this controversy by rudely disturbing the ghosts of their ecclesiastical forefathers?

3. In quoting from a plain printed document the strength of the United Presbyterian Church in Scotland, Mr. Bright, or his instructors, fell into the error of reducing the congregations to about one-half their actual number; and, on this inexcusable blunder, he grounded a powerful argument against the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. Scotch United Presbyterians, quoth he, are only half as numerous as the Irish; yet they contribute a larger amount to missionary and other religious objects! This gross mistake, perpetrated, or adopted, by the hon. gentleman, I corrected, by simply showing, from the document which he misquoted, that the alleged numerical disproportion had no existence, save as a Voluntary error or fiction. In the view of ordinary mortals, this correction was utterly destructive of Mr. Bright's argument, by taking away the entire foundation on which it rested. But our Manchester logician, armed at all points, says No, the correction does not "serve Dr. Wilson's purpose on behalf of his position!" Well, at all events, it demolishes the baseless conclusion of my opponent. The reasons of Mr. Bright and Co. for regarding with complacency the wreck of his former argument are worthy of a passing consideration.—First, these Scottish congregations, he informs us, taken altogether, are less numerous than the Irish, which is simply the reverse of the truth, as our friend might have easily ascertained from the public records of these respective

bodies. Secondly, Mr. Bright's argument, according to the society, is strengthened by the fact, that "the self-supporting congregations do number only 256, and it is they who raise the £80 to £140 not only for their own ministers, but chiefly also for the ministers of the other congregations." Were this statement only substantiated by its authors, it would gladden the heart of many a worthy Scotch minister, to whom it will convey the astounding intelligence, that he and his poor brother are severally in receipt of £80 to £140 per annum! But, apart from the hopeless ignorance of facts which seems ingrained in the English department of the present controversy, the statement itself proceeds upon a manifestly unfair principle of comparison. If Mr. Bright selects the wealthy congregations of Scotch Presbyterians, and parades their liberality, with the view to point a contrast, and give a blow to Ireland, I have the same right to select and expose their poor congregations, in order to give a blow to Scotland. Such procedure, in both cases, would be equally uncandid and disreputable.—In the first instance Mr. Bright adopted the only equitable principle, by professedly bringing into comparison the entire strength of the two churches; but, finding himself caught in one of his customary blunders, instead of manfully abandoning an argument which had been proved to rest on a basis of falsehood, he had recourse to that pitiable shuffling, which, I am sorry to find, is sanctioned by the representative of the London Liberation Society. Besides, the wealthy congregations among us are by no means so insensible to the claims of their poorer brethren as Mr. Bright would lead Englishmen to believe. Not to speak of the annual contributions for the support of weak congregations, and the considerable sums raised, especially in the large towns, to aid in erecting houses of worship in less favourable localities, the Rev. David Hamilton, the Moderator, laid upon the table of our General Assembly, at its meeting in July last, a list of subscriptions from 240 congregations, amounting to about £29,000, payable within a specified period, and designed to form the commencement of a Church and Manse Building Fund for the Irish Presbyterian community. Does not this promising effort furnish a triumphant practical answer to the veracious declaimers among the Nonconformists in England, who would persuade the public and the legislature, that the *Regium Donum* has frozen up the springs of Irish Presbyterian liberality?

As I feel that the remaining matter must be reserved for another letter, I bring my present communication to a close, by referring to two very different authorities on the subject of *Regium Donum*. Mr. George Matthews, late of Dublin Castle, seems to be an especial favourite with Mr. Bright and his coadjutors. Well, Mr. Matthews took a deep interest in the increase and perpetuation of *Regium Donum*; and, in relation to the object, he stated, on one occasion, to myself, that the plan he proposed "would have the support of all parties, with the exception of the Voluntary fudges, and that they would talk a great deal, but could do nothing." Mr. Matthews may, of course, be quoted on the other side, and Mr. Bright is thus entitled to half his weight as an authority.

The other authority is the illustrious and venerated Dr. Chalmers, who, as Moderator of the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland in 1843, thus addressed the deputation from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland:—"Your church presents us with an ecclesiastical phenomenon altogether charged with principle, and there is not another church within the limits of Reformed Christendom of which we can say the same. Through your *Regium Donum* the principle of an establishment is recognised by the State, and yet you are in possession of the most perfect spiritual liberty, providing, therefore, as has been well said by yourselves—providing that a perfect harmony may exist between the two principles, and that there should be a national support for the clergy on the one hand, and yet the unfettered exercise of all their rights and privileges on the other. (Cheers.) . . . You present a strong experimental proof, at least, in behalf of the sentiment, that the best of all systems is to have a clergy paid by the people."—*Banner of Ulster*, May 23, 1843. The intelligent part of the public will probably consider Dr. Chalmers quite as competent to form a correct and candid judgment on the question of Irish Presbyterian endowments, as either Mr. John Bright, or any member of the London Liberation Society.—I am, &c.,

ROBERT WILSON.

Belfast Presbyterian College, Dec. 19, 1854.

LIBERATION OF RELIGION SOCIETY.

HUDDESFIELD.—We learn from the *Huddersfield Examiner*, which gives a good report and has a leading article on the subject—that a meeting was held at the Philosophical Hall, Huddersfield, on the 15th December which day, unfortunately for the meeting, proved very wet. John Robinson, Esq., occupied the chair, and the Rev. J. Stock, Rev. R. Skinner, Rev. R. Skinner, Rev. R. Bruce, Rev. W. Hudson, in addition to Dr. Foster and the Rev. E. S. Pryce, who attended as a deputation, spoke to the resolutions proposed, and great interest was excited by the details furnished by the deputation. Our space not allowing us to give any report of the speeches, we give an extract from the journal we have named. The mode in which the society's Parliamentary Sub-committee operates, and the success that has already attended its efforts, were detailed in the Professor's admirable speech reported in another column, and to which we refer our readers. Professor Foster furnishes an instructive and gratifying sketch of what has been done, and of what may be accomplished through this agency if the society be energetically supported by the country, especially by the constituencies. Several important measures brought before Parliament this session had a bearing on the object of this society; and the com-

mittee were enabled, by active steps, to frustrate several attempts to advance the State-church principle, and to serve the cause of religious freedom and equality. This feature of the society's movements deserves the earnest consideration and support of every friend of religion and progress, and we doubt not these labours will be duly appreciated by the country. The *Regium Donum* and other grants given to the Irish Presbyterians were brought before Parliament last session chiefly through the instrumentality of this society. The matter has subsequently engaged general attention through the publication of Mr. Bright's speech, and in a correspondence in the public papers, in which Dr. Wilson, of Belfast, Mr. Bright, and Professor Foster, have taken part. The evils of State patronage of religion are strikingly exhibited in the facts connected with this grant. One important fact that has been brought out in the discussion, we will just draw attention to. As the case stands at present, it appears clear that the Irish Presbyterians have been claiming and obtaining yearly grants of public money for congregations which have not in reality existed—that is, these pious Presbyterians have been practising fraud upon the Government."

NEWBURY.—The Rev. E. S. Pryce and J. Carvell Williams, Esq., attended a meeting at Newbury, on Tuesday the 19th inst., to explain the objects and operations of the society. The meeting took place in the Town Hall, and, notwithstanding the badness of the evening, there was a goodly number present. Mr. Henry Keens, a member of the town council, took the chair; Mr. Pryce explained the general objects of the society, and the methods by which it is proposed to carry them into effect; after which, Mr. Williams gave a lucid and interesting statement of the action of the Parliamentary Committee of the House of Commons during the last session of Parliament, together with an outline of their aim in that direction for the future. Both addresses were listened to with marked attention, and excited frequent and cordial applause. A resolution was afterwards proposed by the Rev. J. Drier, and seconded by Mr. Davis, in which the meeting expressed its entire approval of the constitution and proceedings of the society and its readiness to yield it hearty support. This was the first meeting in connexion with the society held in Newbury, and we have reason to believe that it did much towards removing the apathy with which the subject has been regarded there, as well as towards dissipating the prejudice conceived by many against the movement itself.

Religious Intelligence.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, BATTLE BRIDGE, PENTONVILLE.

This new and beautiful edifice was opened for Divine worship on Tuesday, the 19th, the Rev. Dr. Harris preaching in the morning, and the Rev. Samuel Martin in the evening. The building is very elegant and substantial, of the early English style of architecture, and will accommodate about 600 persons, arrangements being made for the erection of galleries when found necessary. The school-room beneath the church is large, lofty and well-lighted. The freehold site which has been purchased is very eligible, reaching from the New-road to the Bagnigge-wells-road, near the station of the Great Northern Railway. It is situated on the borders of three parishes—Islington, Clerkenwell, and St. Pancras,—the aggregate population of which, according to the Census of 1851, was 327,063 persons, while the number of sittings provided by all religious bodies did not exceed 94,992. In St. Pancras alone, it appears, that 80,000 souls are unprovided for, and a far larger number habitually neglect worship altogether.

After the morning service, the friends assembled in the school-room, and partook of a cold collation; and at three o'clock a public meeting was held, Samuel Morley, Esq., in the chair; who was supported by Eusebius Smith, Esq., John Finch, Esq., H. Rutt, Esq., Thomas Spalding, Esq.; the Revs. Dr. Harris, Henry Allon, C. Gilbert, J. C. Harrison, J. W. Richardson, J. C. Galway, E. Cornwall, J. Fleming, James Smith, John Blackburn, John Weir, Owen Clarke, Newman Hall, William Owen, T. Seavill, minister of the place, and other gentlemen.

The Rev. THOMAS SEAVILL stated that it was now a little more than a year since the first stone of the chapel was laid by their respected chairman, Mr. Morley. In the course of its erection many difficulties had been experienced by the committee, owing to the outbreak of the war, the depression of trade, the increased price of materials and labour, and other causes. Their honoured treasurer, Mr. Spalding, however, to whom they were under deep obligations, advanced the money necessary for carrying on the work, as he had previously done, in conjunction with Mr. Joshua Wilson, to secure the freehold. Mr. Samuel Morley and Mr. John Finch, moreover, had each promised £50, in addition to their former donations of £100. (Hear, hear.) Much additional aid, however, was needed to meet the exigencies of the case, and a special appeal was issued, and subscriptions solicited, on the condition that they should only be payable in the event of £1,250 being raised within six months—the sum required for immediate use, and the raising of which amount had been made by the Congregational Chapel Building Society the condition of their promised grant of £600. The treasurer again most liberally headed the new subscription with another £100. (Hear.) The total result of this special effort, up to the present time, was £272 6s.; £286 4s. had previously been collected since October last year; making in all a sum of £558 10s., paid or promised since the first stone was laid. The payment of £210 of this sum is, however, contingent on the terms before mentioned. The expenditure and receipt account at present, stood thus:—Expenditure, £5,500 1s. 2d.; receipts, paid or promised conditionally, £2,520 7s.

64.; leaving a debt of £2,979 12s. 8d. The committee required to raise immediately the odd sum, £979 12s. 8d., in order to secure the £810 which depends upon them doing so; and also that the debt might be reduced to £2,000, for which sum it is proposed to mortgage the building. If the sum of £980 could be raised at once, the minister would also be rescued from much oppressive care and toil; an infant cause would be saved from a pressure which might endanger its success; and the schools could also be proceeded with.

The CHAIRMAN thought that something practical was desirable on the part of the present meeting, and he offered therefore to increase his subscription from £150 to £250. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Spalding was also willing to make his subscription £250. (Cheers.) The Rev. JOHN BLACKBURN alluded to the different state of feeling which exists among the pastors and churches of the metropolis now respecting the multiplication of chapels, compared with that which obtained thirty or more years ago, when it would have been thought very improper and disorderly to erect a new edifice within almost a stone's cast of an old one. He reasoned upon the importance of the Nonconformist press paying increased attention to the question of sites for chapels, and seeking to break down the very improper and mischievous notions which prevented some of the antiquated City Companies allowing any of their property to be sold for the purpose of such erections. One of those wise bodies, some years ago, refused to sell a portion of land in Aldersgate-street to Dr. Bennett, on which to build a chapel, upon the plea that they were Protestants, and knew better than to encourage him in such an undertaking; and to some extent he believed the same ignorant opposition to Nonconformity to exist at the present day in those quarters. And yet it was notorious that Roman Catholics could obtain sites for building which were denied to Protestant Dissenters. (Hear.) The Rev. NEWMAN HALL, of Surrey Chapel, handed in £10 received from a friend who desired to be nameless, and made a speech in favour of crosses upon places of worship, calling them churches instead of chapels, and condemning the practice of inscribing on the front of the edifice the name of the denomination to which it belonged,—a practice that existed, to some extent, among Wesleyans, Baptists, and others, and which he regarded as fraught with evil, while it did no good.

ARNSBY.—The Rev. Shem Evans, pastor of the Baptist church, Penknap, Westbury, has accepted an invitation to take the oversight of the Baptist Church at Arnsby, near Market Harborough.

THE REV. D. PLEDON, late of St. Peter's, has accepted of a most unanimous invitation from the church and congregation assembling in Union Chapel, High Wycombe, and will commence his ministerial labours on the first Lord's-day in the new year.

CHATHAM.—The church and congregation assembling at Ebenezer Chapel, Chatham, have presented their late pastor, the Rev. P. Thomson, M.A., now of Grosvenor-street Chapel, Manchester, with a very handsome gold watch, chain, and stand, the stand bearing the following inscription:—"Presented, with a gold watch and chain, to the Rev. P. Thomson, M.A., by the church and congregation of Ebenezer Chapel, as a memento of the sincere affection and lasting attachment of those to whom he had endeared himself through a faithful ministry of twenty years." A copy, elegantly bound, of Conybeare and Howson's "Life and Epistles of St. Paul" had previously been presented, by the Sunday-school, Teachers Preparation Class, as a token of their sincere regard and due appreciation of his piety and valuable services among them.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, HAMILTON.—This church was one of the five from which the churches in Glasgow withdrew their fellowship in 1844, on the ground of difference of sentiment in relation to the work of the Holy Spirit in human salvation. During the pastorate of the Rev. P. Morrison, a desire for renewal of fellowship with the churches of the Congregational Union sprang up, which desire has been realized through the recognition of this church by those in Glasgow as a sister church. The Rev. Thomas Pullar, of Dumfries, recently received a unanimous invitation to the pastoral office, and was inducted into the charge on Thursday, Dec. 7th—on which occasion, the Rev. David Johnstone, of Glasgow, conducted the opening devotional exercises; the Rev. Professor Thomson, of the Glasgow Theological Academy, delivered the introductory discourse; the Rev. P. Anderson, of Lanark, proposed the usual questions, and offered the designation prayer; and the Rev. David Russell, of Glasgow, addressed Mr. Pullar and the church. The interesting service was terminated with prayer by the newly-appointed pastor.

BREXALSTON, DEVON.—On Wednesday, the 20th inst., services were held in the Independent Chapel, in connection with the settlement of the Rev. William Hill, formerly of Bodmin, as pastor of the church and congregation. In the forenoon, the Rev. J. Cloke, Baptist minister of Calstock, read the Scriptures and offered prayer. The Rev. A. Hampson, of Devonport, (in the absence of Dr. Alcott, who had been called to Nottingham by family affliction) delivered a discourse, setting forth the principles and practice of congregational Dissenters. The Rev. J. E. Trevor, who had been present in 1815 at the ordination of the former minister, the Rev. W. Whillans, and who interested the meeting by some pleasing reminiscences of the service held nearly forty years before, then asked the usual questions. These were satisfactorily and appropriately answered by one of the deacons, on behalf of the church, and by the newly-elected pastor, the people confirming their choice by show of hands. Mr. Trevor then offered the recognition prayer, and concluded the service. In the evening, the Rev. A. Hampson read the Scriptures and prayed; the Rev. John

Pyer, of Devonport, addressed a charge to the minister, grounded on Rev. ii. 10; and the Rev. Eliezer Jones, of Plymouth, preached to the people from Col. iii. 17. The hymns were given out, in the morning by the Rev. W. Whillans, under whose ministry the cause was first raised; and in the evening by the Rev. J. E. Trevor. Between the services a number of friends, including several from Plymouth and Devonport, dined and drank tea in the school-room. Both services were exceedingly well attended.

BRENTWOOD, ESSEX.—The Rev. John Sidney Hall, who has, during the last eight years sustained the office of pastor over the Congregational church at this place, having accepted an invitation to the pastorate of the church at Chatham, in the room of the Rev. Patrick Tomson, A.M., removed to Manchester, was invited by the people of his late charge to meet them at tea, in the school-room adjoining the chapel, on Tuesday, the 19th instant. A large meeting assembled on the occasion, among whom were several ministers and friends from neighbouring churches. The senior deacon, Mr. John Field Butler, of Ohilderditch Hall, presided. The Rev. George Kettle opened the meeting with prayer, after which addresses were delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Kluht, Morrison, Jennings, Smith, and Pearce. The Chairman, in the course of the proceedings, presented Mrs. Hall with a beautifully inscribed writing-desk—the gift of the ladies of the church and congregation—as a token of the high regard and affectionate esteem in which they held her. Another of the deacons presented Mr. Hall with a purse containing a few sovereigns, which he stated had been collected with the view of purchasing and presenting him with some work which, it was hoped, would not only prove valuable to him in itself, but possess an additional value, in his estimation, as the parting gift of an affectionate flock. By the blessing of God upon Mr. Hall's labours, much good has been effected; during the past eight years, at Brentwood. A large and commodious chapel has been built, the cost of which has long since been liquidated; the congregation has been increased more than fourfold; a day school has been established; a town and village missionary appointed, supported by the voluntary contributions of the congregation; and other channels of usefulness have been opened. Mr. Hall will commence his labours at Chatham on the first Sunday in the new year.

BIRMINGHAM SCHOLASTIC INSTITUTION FOR SONS OF MINISTERS.—The fourth annual examination of the pupils of this interesting school has just taken place under the direction of the Rev. Charles Vince, minister of Mount Zion Chapel, Graham-street; of the Rev. A. Gordon, LL.D., Walsall; and of the Rev. Samuel Green, M.A., Professor of Mathematics at Horton College, Bradford, Yorkshire. The subjects of examination embraced Biblical History and Theology, relative to which Mr. Vince, after speaking in detail, says:—"On reviewing the entire examination, I can bear decided testimony to the efficiency of the training and the general progress of the pupils." The Mathematical department gave great satisfaction. The written replies submitted to Mr. Green gave evidence of a good acquaintance with the elements of Euclid and Algebra in many of the pupils, while some professed more, and sustained an examination up to the twelfth book, and also in Trigonometry. The testimony of Mr. Green will be perused by the friends of the institution with considerable interest, as indicating the decided advantages offered to the boys under their care. He also proposed many questions to them in History—Grecian, Roman, and English, in Natural Philosophy, and other branches of education. The Classical department was conducted by Dr. Gordon. He examined in various Latin authors from Eutropius to Livy and Horace, also in French and in Greek. He paid some high compliments to the students on their diligence and success, and especially encouraged the boys in the senior classes to prosecute their studies, intimating to them his hope that they would try to secure a degree at some of the Universities, where he felt sure they would even now matriculate with honour. It will be remembered, from previous notices of this school, that the object of the society is to give board and education at reduced charges to the sons of ministers of limited income; and it is a fundamental rule "that the parents or friends of every boy admitted into the school shall contribute to the funds of the institution a minimum charge of ten guineas per annum, payable half-yearly in advance." Many of the boys now in the school pay twelve guineas per annum; the remaining sum required for each pupil is supported by subscriptions and donations. At the conclusion of the present session there were thirty-one youths, the sons of ministers of seven different denominations, placed by the committee under the care of the Rev. T. H. Morgan, the Principal, at Shireland Hall.

Correspondence.

THE MONTHLY CHRISTIAN SPECTATOR.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

MR. EDITOR.—You have lately commended anew the claims of the *Electric Review* upon the Nonconformist body, and have also intimated an intention to call attention, at the close of the year, to the state of our periodical literature.

Under such circumstances, you probably will not think it unreasonable to remind your readers of the existence of another monthly journal which they would do well to take under their fostering care—I refer to the *Christian Spectator*, just about to enter upon its fifth year.

Such a suggestion is due to its modest Editor, who has no denomination or party at his back,—leaves his work to make its way by the force of its own merits—and has, I believe, no other reward for his painstaking and outlay, than the consciousness that he is doing something to raise the character of Dissenting periodical literature.

The readers of the magazine, if they make the com-

parison, must feel that in freshness, force, and scholarship, there is not a sixpenny magazine in this kingdom which so much as approaches it. And it is untrammelled, and, in the matter of principle, true to the back-bone.

Now, as Magazine Day is close at hand, let those same admiring readers invest their sixpences in a few extra copies of the *Spectator*, and put them into the hands of their intelligent friends who may happen not to have met with it previously. Then, before January is out, let them ascertain how it is liked, and if the reply be favourable, let them apply such pressure to obtain orders for the booksellers as many good but procrastinating people require.

This will be the directest as well as the least expensive mode of increasing the circulation, and who, that has read the magazine for four years, does not wish for it a wider circle of influence?

Christmas Day.

EARNEST.

INCOME-TAX ON DISSENTING MINISTERS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—Can you, or any of your readers inform me whether Dissenting ministers can legally escape the payment of the income-tax? I have been informed that some, who would be otherwise liable, do so on the ground that they have no stated income—all that they receive being a "voluntary gift." I am anxious to receive authentic information on this matter, and should feel obliged should any of your readers know of an instance in which the payment of this tax has been avoided on the above or any similar grounds, if they would communicate the fact through your columns.

If names are given, which would be desirable, it should be understood that they are given in confidence.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

December 26.

H.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

Decimal Coinage, in favour of, 1.
Enlistment of Foreigners Bill, against, 2.
Factory Labour, for further limiting the hours of, 1.
Sale of Beer Act, against repeal of, 1.
New South Wales, for amendment of constitution, 1.
Stage Carriages, for reduction of duty, 1.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME.

Episcopal and Capitular Estates Bill.
Spirits (Ireland) Act Amendment Bill.
Public Libraries and Museums Bill.
Common Law Procedure Act Amendment (Ireland) Bill.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

Enlistment of Foreigners Bill.
CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

Enlistment of Foreigners Bill.
BILLS READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED.

Militia Bill.
Enlistment of Foreigners Bill.

DEBATES.

SAVINGS BANKS.

The House of Commons, on Wednesday, went into committee on the Consolidated Fund Act, when

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved a resolution to this effect:—"That it is expedient to create a charge on the consolidated fund in respect of the sums due to savings banks and friendly societies, and to provide for the payment of interest thereon to the Commissioners of the National Debt at 3 per centum per annum; and also to make provision out of the consolidated fund, or by Exchequer-bills or Exchequer-bonds, for any difference between the assets in the hands of the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt in respect of savings banks and friendly societies, and the liabilities thereon; and also for the interest on such bills or bonds." He prefaced this motion by an explanation of the object of the resolution—namely, to make it the foundation of clauses of a bill he proposed to introduce to obviate various difficulties respecting the custody of moneys of savings banks, and, in connexion with another bill, to regulate the guarantee and the management of those institutions. His object was to place the contract between the State and the savings-bank depositors, in respect to the custody of the money, on the same footing as that of bankers—namely, instead of placing the money in stock or public securities, that the Government should take it into its own hands. Many advantages would be secured by the substitution of a simple charge upon the consolidated fund. At present the statement of the national debt account was not a true statement, since it did not include the liabilities of the National Debt Commissioners to the savings-banks trustees. By the bill he proposed to introduce, he should provide for a statement of the balance of assets and liabilities of the National Debt Commissioners once a year.

The resolution was agreed to, after a brief discussion.

FOREIGNERS ENLISTMENT BILL.

On the order for going into committee on this bill, on Wednesday, Mr. H. T. LADDILL opposed and Mr. RICH supported it.

Mr. DRUMMOND said if this were really a *bona fide* measure for taking into our pay any number of lawful troops, such a measure should have his support; but he collected that there was a totally different agency in view, to which he had a strong and conscientious objection; that men would be enlisted who had no sovereign and no country, whose fidelity would be governed by the amount of their pay. It was because he could not get at the description of the troops intended to be employed that he had voted against the second reading of the bill.

The bill was further opposed by Sir W. VERNAN, Mr. OTWAY and Mr. WHITBREAD—the latter of whom made a strong party speech—which was replied to by Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT. Mr. NAPIER contended that the bill was not merely derogatory to the country, but repugnant to the principles of Christianity.

Mr. CORRY said, although he thought the expedition to the Crimea about the richest recorded in our

annals, yet, the nation having willed that 30,000 of our troops should invade the empire of Russia, 3,000 miles off, it was bound to succour these brave men. But by this measure we were holding out a signal of distress, and proclaiming a sort of national bankruptcy. He was continually reminded of the fervour and enthusiasm of the country, and was told by the Government that recruits could be got in England. Then what was the motive for enlisting foreigners?

I have listened with anxiety to hear where you are to get recruits from, but I have heard nothing yet more tangible than that you are going to intercept a number of German emigrants on their way from Hull to Liverpool by the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway. (A laugh.) That appears to me a most peevish resource. The emigration from Germany to the United States consists generally of grown-up men and women with their families, of communities of labourers carrying with them their clergyman and their doctor, who have booked themselves upon the Rhine for Cincinnati or Buffalo, or some other place in the Far West. Can anything be so peevish as to dream of intercepting these people, of stopping them on their way through England, and inducing them to go to Sebastopol? The opinion of most people would sanctify the practice of war, and make the profession of arms one of the most honourable pursuits of man. What is the reason of this? Why, it is assumed that men fight for a cause (hear, hear), that they are actuated by love of home, devotion to the country, or attachment to a sovereign; these are the sentiments that hallow the pursuit of arms. But what motives have these men whom you endeavour to hire out of the back alms of the towns of Germany? They can have no pretensions to fighting from any moral motive whatever; they are deprived of every ground upon which you can justify war; and, as they want the motives which I have described, there is just the difference between them and an ordinary soldier fighting for his country that there is between a hero and a out-throat. (Hear, hear.) It is wholesale assassination to employ them.

Mr. Cobden explained his phrase—"the crumpling up of Russia:"—

I once used a phrase which has been a good deal abused, and has caused much amusement, and I dare say will do so again. I was speaking at a public meeting in 1849 of those who threatened us with an attack from Russia, and my words were these:—"If Russia were to attack England or the United States, or any other great maritime power, they would fall upon her like a thunderbolt, and crumple her up in her own dominions by means of their shipping." Have we not done so by means of our shipping? The moment our ships appeared did not the fleets of Russia disappear? But if you attempt to fight Russia on land you must be prepared for a very different state of things from that which you contemplated, and it is reducing your efforts to a most disproportionate proportion—it is using the strength of a dwarf for doing the work of ten giants—to paddle over your Foreign Enlistment Bill to enable you to go abroad and get aid to carry on the war.

On bringing up the report he should, he said, take the opportunity of making some remarks upon the conduct and prospects of this great war.

Lord J. RUSSELL regretted that Mr. Cobden should have repeated a misrepresentation which had been six or seven times exposed, namely, that this was a measure, and the only measure, for supplying soldiers for the expedition to the Crimea. He reminded the House of the measures which the Government had adopted for that purpose, and of the reinforcements sent thither. This measure, instead of being the first, or second, or third, was one of a series of measures for the vigorous prosecution of the war, and, if the Government had not proposed it, they would, no doubt, have been reproached with want of foresight.

Mr. DANBY SEYMOUR had voted for the second reading of the bill with great regret. No fewer than fifty-four men-of-war were lying idle in the vicinity of Sebastopol, while cargoes of every kind of produce (except breadstuffs) were being carried from Taganrog and other ports to enable Russia to support the war, though it was by crippling her power to pay her armies that we could hope to conquer in this tremendous struggle. While munitions of war and provisions came down the Don and the Volga to the sea of Azof, and were conveyed to Sebastopol, nothing could be easier than for our magnificent fleet to cut off these communications.

The debate was adjourned.

Mr. CONOLLY continued the debate on Thursday, by a speech in opposition to the bill; stating in strong terms arguments previously employed.

Mr. COLLIER said, he voted for the bill with great reluctance; but the question was, is it necessary? The Government, on the one side, asserts that it is necessary, and the Opposition, on the other, declares that it is not: he, as an independent member, thought that the Government must be the best informed on the subject, and he could well understand that there might exist good reasons, independent of considerations of loss or retention of office, to induce the Government to withhold, at present, the information they possess. The Commander-in-chief has supported the Government in the House of Lords; Lord Raglan wrote for this kind of assistance; and the army would prefer present assistance to promises of support. Whether would boasting of our inexhaustible resources, or two hundred thousand bayonets, damage the Emperor of Russia most?

When Mr. NEWDEGATE and Mr. MURROUGH had spoken on the Opposition side, Mr. DISRAELI said he desired that no mistake should prevail as to the conduct of his side of the House. Every facility had been given to the transaction of public business. He supposed Lord John Russell did not think the measure had been unreasonably discussed, as he had not deprecated discussion. But the House might as well go into committee then, and take further discussion on the third reading. In this view Lord JOHN RUSSELL said he concurred; and the House accordingly went into committee. The whole of the subsequent discussion arose on the first clause of the bill; and a great variety of questions were put to Ministers, often answered, and often repeated, and answered again by

Lord JOHN RUSSELL and Mr. SYDNEY HERBERT. These answers were mainly—that there is no provision as to the choice of officers, whether they are to be exclusively English or German; that the quartering of the troops must be left to the Executive, care being taken to place them where they will excite the least ill-will; and that they will not be billeted. Mr. HENLEY raised an important question. The German emigrants, having letters of denaturalization, their wives and families will follow them to this country: are they to be maintained out of the national funds, or thrown as chance paupers upon the poor-rates? Mr. SYDNEY HERBERT said that the Government would select men who had no wives and children; and where some individual married men are so eligible for enlistment as to be desirable, their families might proceed to the colonies. Government would consider the question. This answer did not seem satisfactory, for the question was repeated; and complaints were made that Government to important inquiries only answered, "I don't know."

At length the long talk came to an end, and business proceeded. The House was cleared for a division against clause 1; but no division took place. The other clauses were also agreed to without amendment, and the House resumed.

On the motion of the third reading of the bill on Friday, Sir EDWARD DERING moved as an amendment, that it be read a third time that day six months.

Mr. COBDEN said that the bill having been fully discussed on its merits, and the question being treated as one of confidence in the Government, he thought that the time was appropriate for some general criticism on the progress of the war. He was in favour of a peaceful solution of their present difficulties, but if that were impracticable, if the war was to go on, if they were to carry on a war of invasion by land against an empire like Russia—then it should be carried on in a very different spirit, and on a very different scale, from what it has hitherto been. (Hear.) For himself, he could not understand what they were now carrying on the war for. It was not to fulfil treaties with the Porte, because no such compact existed. Nor was it to open the Black Sea and Danube to commerce—that was already secured. The traffic up the Danube in the last ten years had multiplied tenfold probably, and all nations have free access to it. There had been a strong feeling that Russia had not only absorbed and oppressed certain nationalities, but that she has been the prime agent by which Austria has been enabled to perpetuate her government over unwilling subjects. He should say that that class of people was fairly represented in this House by his lamented noble friend the late member for Marylebone. (Hear, hear.)

I ask whether that force of public opinion which has been founded upon the impression that we were going to war in order to aid the Poles, Hungarians, and others, has not been entirely delusive,—whether it may not be put down along with those other grounds which I have named,—the opening of the Black Sea, the free navigation of the Danube, and the supposed treaty with Turkey,—as all equally delusive, so far as the people out of doors have relied on the Government carrying on the war for these objects. The Government knew that the three first did not exist; and they know well that they never intended to go to war for the purpose of setting up the Hungarians, the Poles, or any of those oppressed nationalities. I yield to no one in my sympathy for those who are struggling for liberty in any part of the world. I respect the motives of those who wish to join hands in aiding nationalities to attain their independence or freedom; but I never will pretend to say that I can sanction a system of propaganda which seeks to establish this or that nationality by the force of arms, or any influence that England can bring to bear, because that is violating a principle which I wish to see carried out in the other direction, in opposition to those who interfere with nationalities for the purpose of putting them down. I am against interference with the affairs of other countries, for whatever object it may be sought. At the same time, I will admit that if they could show me that a war was likely to advance liberty, constitutional freedom, or national independence, where it is a right, it would be a very great bribe indeed to me to acquiesce in that war, or to see some compensation for the multiplied evils that war brings in its train.

But the statesman's ground for going to war was to defend the Turkish empire against the encroachments of Russia, and as part of a scheme for keeping the several states of Europe within their present limits. With our geographical position he thought the enterprise was somewhat Quixotic. He presumed England did not pretend to set up to be the Anacharsis Cloots of nations, to represent everybody on the face of the earth, and to fight for everybody. The object of statesmen was to befriend Turkey against the encroachments of Russia, and thus to raise a barrier against the acquisition of further territory by that great empire. That was the object as announced in the Queen's speech.

Now, I ask, have we not accomplished that object? Have we not arrived at that point when we can say all that was promised in the Queen's speech has been effected. Russia is no longer within the pale of the Turkish territory. Russia, I believe, has renounced all intention of invading Turkey; and we have, according to the noble lord, certain proposals made from Russia to serve as a basis of peace. What are those proposals? In the first place there is to be a joint protectorate, by the Five Great Powers of Europe, of the Christians of Turkey. There is to be a joint guarantee for the rights and privileges of the Principalities. There is to be a revocation of the rule laid down in 1841 with regard to the right of entrance of ships of war into the Black Sea; and the Danube is to be free to all nations. These are the propositions that are made for peace on behalf of Russia, as we are told by the noble lord; and what I want to ask the House is, whether it is not competent for us to offer an opinion, at the present moment, as to the desirability of treating on these terms. My first reason for urging that we should entertain these terms is this:—We are told that Austria and Prussia have agreed to those terms. Now, Austria and Prussia are more interested in this quarrel than England is—a great deal more than England ought to be. Austria and Prussia lie at the frontier and

on the very borders of this empire, which you say threatens us with so much danger. You cannot have an invasion of the Russians unless they pass over Austria or Prussia. Is it likely, if all we hear about the danger of Western Europe being overrun by Russia be true, that Austria and Prussia would not be sensible of that fact? And ought we not rather to take as a proof that we have exaggerated the danger and the power of Russia to invade Western Europe, the fact that Austria and Prussia are not more alarmed about it than we are? (Hear.)

If these Powers are willing to accept these four propositions, why should not we entertain them? He believed that nineteen-twentieths of the population of Prussia sympathized with the Western Powers, but at the same time, he believed, from all he heard, that an equally large majority would object to fight against Russia, and would support their King in his present policy of peace. He maintained that neither our honour nor our interest was involved in refusing the terms which had been proposed. Our object was to protect our Turkish ally from the attacks of Russia. The other question, as regards the fall of Sebastopol, was not the point in question; it was a matter of detail connected with the carrying on of the war. If Sebastopol were taken we should then treat of peace. Was it worth the sacrifice? He denied that Sebastopol was the stronghold of the Russian power.

Destroy Sebastopol you may, but the probability is that in ten years Russia will come to London for a loan, and build it up stronger than before. (Hear, hear, and a laugh.) As to the ships lying in Sebastopol, they are probably crazy seventy-fours, and you could not do a greater service to Russia than to destroy them, for she would then build others of a better construction.

But suppose Sebastopol utterly destroyed, were there no other places, on the Black Sea coast, which might by art and money be converted into as strong fortresses as Sebastopol? The real way to give security to Turkey was not by destroying Sebastopol, but by improving the internal government of Turkey. And was the continuance of the war likely to further that improvement?

I believe that since the beginning of this war you have done more to demoralise Turkey than could ever be accomplished in time of peace. What is wanted to revive Turkey is reform in her government and her administration, a united people, and the development of her resources. She will not then present the odious spectacle of wretchedness and impoverishment which she now does. Then comes another question. You say that you intend to make a treaty by which we will bind the Five Powers together for the better treatment of the Christian subjects of Turkey. But have you considered the whole extent of the consequences involved in that principle? (Hear, hear.) You contemplate doing by means of the Five Powers what Russia did alone and by herself (hear); will not the critics of the war in America and elsewhere say, that we are wrong in going to war to prevent Russia from doing that very thing which we contemplate doing by ourselves in conjunction with others? I can only say, Heaven help Turkey when she has the protectorate of Five Powers instead of one. (Hear, hear, and laughter.)

Was it not more statesmanlike to address themselves to the question—how you could best reconstruct and improve the internal state of Turkey? That is what they would have to do. Make peace to-morrow, and Turkey would fall into a state of collapse. If they attempted to leave her she would fall into a state of anarchy and utter decay. Lord Palmerston jauntily told the House and the country on a former occasion, in the teeth of the statements of our own ambassador, Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, and all the blue books, and every person who recently travelled in Turkey, that that country had progressed more in the last twenty years than any other country in Europe. Well, what does Lord Carlisle, the most recent traveller in Turkey, say? (Hear, hear.) Lord Carlisle bears the following testimony to the present condition of Turkey and the Turks:—

But when you leave the partial splendour of the capital, and the great state establishments, what is it you find over the broad surface of a land which nature and climate have favoured beyond all others, once the home of all art and all civilization? Look yourself—ask those who live there—deserted villages, uncultivated plains, banditti-haunted mountains, torpid laws, a corrupt administration, a disappearing people.

Everybody bears testimony to the same effect. All agree that the Mahomedan population of Turkey is dying out, owing to their own nameless vices. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Cobden quoted further opinions in support of his views, and noticed especially the fact, that though Constantinople contained a population of 700,000, everything necessary for the care of the thousands of English laid up in the hospital of Scutari from the wounds received in fighting the battles of Turkey, had to be sent from this country.

Does anyone suppose, that if our soldiers had been thus wounded in the cause of Prussia, that the ladies of Berlin, which had not half the population of Constantinople, would allow them to remain without lint and other necessities? Would there be any want of nurses? Is it not the fact, that we have been obliged to send out everything? Either the Turks despise, detest, and spit upon us for our pains, or they are too feeble and incompetent to do anything for us. (Hear.)

He would rather leave this question to be settled by the chances of peace than of war. For instance:—

We engaged in war with America, in 1812, about the right of search and other questions relative to the rights of neutrals. After being unable to settle the question in that way, we made a peace, and a treaty was concluded, in which there was no allusion made to the subject matter of the dispute at all. (Hear, hear, and a laugh.) The question of the right of search or the right of neutrals was never touched in the treaty. Peace, however, was made, which has lasted now for forty years. What was the effect of this peace? In the mean time America has grown stronger, and we perhaps wiser—though I am not so sure of that. (Laughter.) Well, we go to war now with an European power, and we voluntarily abandon those very belligerent rights which led to the war of 1812. (Hear)

hear.) Peace solved the difficulty, which perhaps never would have been solved if they had been at war to this hour. (Hear, hear.) Apply this illustration to the case of Turkey. Suppose you agree to a peace, it is difficult to say what may happen to disembarass you from the difficulty. Your difficulty with Russia has very much of a personal difficulty. The Emperor of Russia is no doubt a man of great energy, I should say of excited energy, a man of indomitable will, which he was not able to control. Well, but the life of every man has a limit, and his successor may have different views. It is because you do not give sufficient credit to the course of events that you involve the country in long and ruinous wars in order to solve the difficulty. (Hear, hear.) Internal troubles may arise in Russia herself, or perhaps during the peace you may succeed in setting up a more stable government and power in Turkey than the present. If you enter into a quintuple alliance you will have Prussia and Austria in conjunction with France and England, taking care that the terms of the agreement are carried out fairly. These are events that may happen, and why not take the chance of them for the accomplishment of the object about which you are engaged in war? Your honour is not involved in the destruction of Sebastopol, but in the withdrawal of the Russians from the Principalities, and that has been effected; you would not therefore sacrifice honour by now making peace.

They were evidently only at the beginning of the war, and it was wise now to pause. Mr. Layard had told them that Russia would soon have 200,000 men in the Crimea, and that the Turkish army would melt away in the ensuing campaign, and that next year Russia would over-run the Turkish provinces of Asia Minor. After describing the great hardships of our troops in the Crimea, Mr. Cobden concluded by saying:—

You must admit, I am sure, whatever the result of the siege be, that it will involve an immense sacrifice of precious lives; and, unless you can show that the object you have to accomplish in contending for the mastery cannot otherwise be obtained, then I say that you ought to encourage Government to look with favour on any propositions for peace which come from the enemy, and even if you make a mistake in accepting peace, you will at least have the consolation of knowing that you have erred on the side of humanity. (Cheers.)

Mr. CORRY opposed, and Dr. PHILLIMORE and Mr. D. SHYMOUR supported, the bill. Lord LOVAIN spoke in favour of the amendment.

Sir E. PARRY considered Mr. Cobden's speech altogether inopportune. In the present critical state of affairs all strictures on the conduct of the war were out of place. He enlarged upon the necessity of adopting the Government proposition.

Mr. EVELYN and Mr. BENTINCK opposed, and Lord EBRINGTON, Mr. P. O'BRIEN, and Mr. COWAN severally supported, the motion for the third reading, expressing various degrees of approval of the measure. Mr. A. SMITH opposed the bill.

After some remarks from Mr. LAING and Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. V. SOULLY expressed his strong approval of the measure. Mr. I. BUTT considered the bill a delusion. Dr. MICHELL and Sir J. FITZGERALD having spoken,

Lord J. RUSSELL replied, briefly addressing himself to the chief arguments against the measure that had been offered during the debate. Adverting to the general question opened by Mr. Cobden, he contended that the war was neither unexpected nor unworthy of the efforts it had cost. He traced the successive steps of Russian ambition before hostilities began, and urged that an attempt so deliberately planned and carried out required to be carefully watched and frustrated. The proposal of Russia made to the English Government was, in fact, one for the increase of the Russian empire, and it carefully guarded against any diffusion of free institutions, or of that of civilisation and knowledge, which they might have expected, from the professions that had been made, it was the intention to establish. (Cheers.)

We declined to join in that attempt; and I gave what I thought were very good reasons why it was not the interest of Russia to make such a proposal. I went on even to flatter the Emperor of Russia, and to praise what I really considered his prudent, wise, and disinterested conduct during many years. The attempt, however, has been made; war has taken place; and the hon. gentleman raises the question as to what should be the course to be pursued. He says the Emperor of Russia may be in fact unable to carry out his proposals—the Principalities not being occupied, and his demands upon the Sultan being abandoned, we have nothing further to do but sign a treaty and to place all things as they were. (Hear, hear.) But, sir, having gone to such an expenditure of blood and treasure to preserve the integrity of Turkey, I think it would be most unwise to place things in exactly the same state as they were in two years ago, (loud cheers), and thus to leave the Emperor of Russia in possession of all the means to subdue Turkey, which he had two years ago, without the certainty of there being the same combination to resist him. (Cheers.)

Lord John then adverted to the proposed terms of peace. They had no wish to dismember Russia of a great portion of her territory, and they considered the four bases which had been laid down, to be eminently moderate.

The first regards the Principalities. In the Principalities took place the invasion of the rights of the Sultan; for the provisions of the treaty of Adrianople were so framed as to leave the high road to Constantinople open to Russia, without any guard whatever, so that merely at her wish and desire she was able to occupy those Principalities without opposition. It is proposed, therefore, to place the privileges of the Christian inhabitants and of the Christian princes under the guardianship of the five great Powers of Europe, so that, if any future aggression should be made by Russia, it would immediately raise the resistance of the other four Powers, who would be bound to protect Turkey against invasion. (Hear, hear.) Here is one security for the future; and, with regard to this security, Austria and Prussia have entirely agreed. (Hear, hear.) The next security—though it is hardly so much a security for Turkey as a provision for the general benefit of Europe—regards the open navigation of the Danube. If that were secured against what has been

called the unfair conduct of Russia (cheers), against the capricious manner in which she has put obstacles in the way of that free navigation, contrary to the provisions of the treaty of Vienna, contrary to the wish and the interests of the inhabitants of Turkey, and solely from her selfish anxiety to direct the trade to another channel, everybody will allow that Europe will be a gainer by the change. (Cheers.) The third point regards a more difficult matter. It refers to the revision of the treaty of 1841, with the addition of these significant words: "in the interests of the balance of power." (Hear, hear.) The meaning of these words is obvious. As matters stood previous to the war, none of the Powers of Europe could send their ships of war, nor could the Sultan invite those ships of war, during peace to ascend the Dardanelles and go to the protection of the walls of Constantinople. On the other hand, the Emperor of Russia, having a great fortress and harbour in the Black Sea, in which there were eighteen or twenty sail of the line, could at any time, with a fair wind, come down with 30,000 or 40,000 troops; could occupy the Bosphorus, and by threatening the destruction of Constantinople with the guns of his fleet, could land his army. After what we have seen, and after the unjust aggression which has taken place two years ago, I think that that would be a very unsafe position in which to leave affairs. (Cheers.)

He maintained with Lord Palmerston, that there had been great progress of late years in Turkey. The Christian subjects of the Porte, at all events, had turned their attention to industrial pursuits, and they formed a great part of the population. As Lord Carlisle said, the toleration and indulgent manner in which they had been treated had led to a great advance in wealth in the Sultan's dominions. (Hear, hear.) By these four articles, care was taken that the Sultan should give such assurances to the Christian powers of Europe that they should see before long an equality established between different sects and parties. Persons of one religion would have the same privileges as those of another; and thus a foundation would be laid for the prosperity of the whole country. (Hear, hear.) He then adverted to the position of Austria, contending that in his speech at the opening of the session he had not attempted to give an exaggerated importance to the new treaty.

Having stated that, I must now repeat, that my belief is, that although not contained in the literal terms of the treaty, Austria will find that, as we do not propose to diminish the territory of Russia, as we propose to leave her a great and powerful state, and only seek for securities which are as necessary for Austria as they are for England, or for France (hear, hear), in order to obtain an honourable and a durable peace—that unless Russia shall consent to such terms—such fair and moderate terms—as it will be our duty to propose whenever the minister of the Emperor of Russia shall declare that he is directed to enter into negotiations—I feel convinced that if those terms are not accepted by the Emperor of Russia—that if he is of opinion that the great scheme which was begun in the reign of Catherine, if not before, that great scheme which is to end in adding Turkey to the dominions of Russia, must be persevered in—then, that we shall have, before the opening of the next campaign, the alliance of Austria with us in an offensive and defensive war. (Cheers.) I have stated that Austria is not literally bound to any such course; but I think that she is morally bound by the stipulations into which she has entered. I have always been of opinion that we should have a long and protracted war, unless Austria was a party with us in that war. But I do believe, that if Austria joins us, and if this should lead to the accession of Prussia to the alliance, that we shall be in a position before very long to say that the war will not be protracted, and that it will be ended by a durable, satisfactory, and honourable peace. (Cheers.)

Sir J. PAXINGTON retained his objection to the employment of mercenaries, and believed the arguments against the bill had been left practically unanswered.

Mr. BRIGHT displayed some warmth in defending Mr. Cobden from the strictures of Lord John Russell, whom he charged with having mistaken and misstated his argument. The hon. member went on to comment upon the degraded state of Turkey, declaring that in supporting the Porte against Russia we were fighting for a hopeless cause and "a worthless protégé." What are their own officers saying? He read a letter in the papers the other day from an officer who thus wrote:—"I see they are going to send us more of the rascally Turks. (Laughter.) I am sorry to see that they are going to bring more of these brutes into the Crimea." (Laughter.) He also saw a private letter from an officer in the Crimea, in which the writer says, "One half of us do not know what we are fighting for, and the other half are praying that they are not fighting for the Turks." (Hear, hear, and laughter.) On a great emergency, when the Turkish empire was placed in extreme jeopardy, they raised an army to defend it; and as far as he (Mr. Bright) could see, the Government were promoting its destruction. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) The only improvement the Turks were adopting was, that they were beginning to wear trousers. (Laughter.) But as to commerce, industry, or revenue, nothing could be in a worse condition. The Turkish Government wanted to borrow money to support the war, and, though Turkey was sustained by two of the greatest empires of the world, she found the greatest difficulty in raising the money. (Hear, hear.) The fact was, the noble lord was beginning to discover that the Turkey which he undertook to protect, the empire which he said the Emperor of Russia was going to crush, was about to be smothered in his own affectionate embrace. (Laughter.) It would be found, as was stated some time ago by the Times, that whatever else might be the result of the contest, "it was certain that at the end of the war there would be no Turkey in Europe to talk about." Mr. Bright then showed, that from the beginning of the dispute there was not a single thing which Austria, or even France, wished to do that the Government of the noble lord did not systematically refuse to do, and that the noble lord was responsible from beginning to end for the failure of the negotiations. (Hear, hear.) He would only mention two facts in support of this statement. In the first place, when M. De La Cour was

sent as ambassador to Constantinople, the Emperor of the French told him that he was by no means to excite the Turkish Government to refuse the Vienna note. (No, no.) He knew that this was quite true, because Lord Cowley stated so in his despatch, which was to be found in the blue book. (Hear, hear.) He was not now saying whether this was a right or wrong policy; he was merely stating the fact; and it was through the interference of Lord Stratford, acting under instructions from home, that that note was rejected. The other fact he had to state was this—that, when Austria and Prussia agreed to the Olmutz note, to which Russia acceded, and when the Emperor of the French said he thought that it carried all the points for which France and England were contending, and signified that opinion to the Government here through Count Walewski, Lord Clarendon himself wrote a letter, not very statesmanlike in its character under the circumstances, for in a contemptuous tone it declared that her Majesty's Government would have nothing further to do with the Vienna note. (Hear.) He was stating merely the simple fact, that the Government of this country rejected the modified Vienna note, and also the Olmutz note. Another fact was, that there was another despatch which never was produced to the people in this country, but which made its appearance in St Petersburg, and afterwards in Paris, in which despatch the French foreign minister urged upon Russia to accept the note on the ground that the general sense of it differed in nothing from the original propositions of Prince Menschikoff. (Hear, hear.) The despatch was written by Drouyn de L'Huys. They state:—

We submit this despatch to the Cabinet of St. Petersburg, with the hope that they will find its general sense differs in no essential from the propositions presented by Prince Menschikoff, and that it will give them satisfaction in all the essential points of their demands, the slight variance in the terms will not be observed by the people either in Russia or Turkey, and the Emperor Nicholas will still be looked on by them as the protector of their religion and guardian of their faith.

He contended, that to carry on a war for vengeance, or for conquest, or for the purpose of government at home, as too many wars had been carried on, (hear, hear) would be a crime in the eyes of God and man. The noble lord had spoken very confidently, but not in a manner at all satisfactory to him, as he was desirous of peace. He considered it would be more statesmanlike to abstain from these trifling and irritating charges brought against the Russian Government, than to accuse the Emperor of forbidding the importation of Bibles and such like. Mr. Bright then adverted in impressive terms to the sufferings endured by our troops in the Crimea, to the fact that 200 officers had been killed or died from their wounds, that forty more had perished of disease, that in the House of Lords on the opening of Parliament three-fourths of the ladies in the gallery were in mourning, and that in every village were cottages into which sorrow had entered, and entered by a policy of the Government which might have been avoided. (Hear, hear.) He was not alone in his condemnation of a war undertaken by a guilty and incompetent Ministry. (Loud cheers from the Opposition.) He would not be silenced by the jeers of those in office, or by the clamours of a venal press. He had that evening one consolation—a consolation which he hoped would remain with him to the last moment of his existence—that he had not by any word of his tended to the squandering of his country's treasure or the spilling of one drop of his country's blood. (Loud cheers.)

When the hon. gentleman resumed his seat there were loud calls for a division, intermixed with cries of "Gladstone, Gladstone." The right hon. gentleman, however, did not respond, and the House then divided:—

For the third reading 173
Against it 135—38

On the motion of the SOLICITOR-GENERAL, a proviso was inserted, enacting that the proposed foreign levies should not be employed in this country, otherwise than was necessary for training and organising; that they should not be billeted upon the inhabitants; and that the number present in the United Kingdom at any one time should not exceed 10,000 men.

Another proviso was added on the motion of Mr. LOCKE KING, to the effect that no officer of the force should be entitled to half-pay, but that the Crown should have power to make some provision for such of the number as might be wounded in the course of service.

The bill was then passed, and the House adjourned at a quarter to two o'clock.

THE MILITIA BILL.

The Militia Bill was brought on for second reading before the House of Lords, on Thursday, when the Duke of NEWCASTLE entered into full explanations, not materially differing from those previously made. With a view to operations in the spring, it is desirable that the regiments now in garrison in the Mediterranean—should be sent on to the Crimea, and their places taken by the Militia regiments, which would be sent out under the bill. There is no difficulty in getting regiments to volunteer for this service; the offers have been more numerous than the necessities of the public service require. No regiment will be taken unless by its own consent, and every regiment will volunteer for particular garrisons. The duke described to the steps taken to encourage recruiting,—as the remission of the repayment of the enrolment-fee to the Militia volunteers, and the payment to them of often shillings, and subsequently of one pound bounty, on a transfer of services to the regular army. A demand of 25 per cent has been made upon the embodied regiments, now sixty-three in number; of which, however, only eighteen had been embodied previously to November 26; nine Irish regiments are now embodied, and the whole of

the Militia which will be ripe for embodiment will be called out without material delay. The standard has been reduced to five feet inches; the bounty has been increased; the age up to which recruits can be received has been to thirty years; and soldiers who have obtained their discharge by purchase may reënter the service up to thirty-five years. The effect of these measures cannot be exactly stated. The source whence the most material increase to the regular army has been obtained has been the Militia, from whom 25 per cent was demanded. Last session the House of Commons voted 40,000 men; but the number of recruits necessary to fill up casualties would increase it to 60,000 men. That number has not been obtained. Whatever number be obtained by recruiting from the Militia, they will not be adequate to the demand, and will be no substitute for enlistments from the population; to which he hoped their lordships and the public at large will give every encouragement.

Opposition to the measure was offered by the Earl of DUNSTON, Earl GRANVILLE, and the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH. The argument pressed by each was, that the Militia is a force intended for home defence; that many officers and privates entered the regiments believing they would not be sent out of the country; that many of them would be ruined if they were sent; and that it is unfair to place upon them the moral screw of this bill. It was also argued, that practically the bill does not limit the power of sending these regiments to the garrisons, but that if the regiment consents to go to the Crimea, it can be sent. The bill is not the best means of reinforcing the army: the best means would be, to embody the whole of the Militia, and then to give every facility for recruiting. Besides, it changes the whole character of the Militia service: all men who cannot adopt military life as a profession will be driven out of it; and the officers who remain will be inferior to those required on active service.

These arguments were met by Earl GRANVILLE and the Duke of ARGYLL. Lord GRANVILLE took the opportunity of offering explanations respecting the inefficient blockade of the Baltic and Black Seas. He stated that some of the northern Russian ports, as Archangel, had not been blockaded, because all the goods about to be exported belonged to French and British merchants. In the Black Sea, after much consultation, the admirals agreed to a plan for watching the entrance to the Bosphorus; but that was found to be an infringement of international law, and new arrangements had to be made. This took time; and then came the expedition to the Crimea, during which the admirals had not the material means of enforcing a strict blockade. But two months ago they were ordered to enforce the blockade with the greatest possible strictness, and to harass the enemy in every way. He could not tell whether ammunition and two Russian princes had been sent from Odessa by sea to the Crimea; but it would seem to be perfectly impossible, as four or five ships have been constantly cruising in front of Odessa.

When the House went into committee, the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH proposed amendments—on clause 1, to limit the number sent abroad to three-fourths actually serving; on clause 5, to provide that the whole number should in no case exceed 15,000; both of which were negatived. All the clauses being agreed to, the report was received.

MANAGEMENT OF THE WAR.

In both Houses, questions have been asked and information given by Ministers of general interest respecting the details of the war.

The Earl of HARDWICK, in asking who is the responsible officer at Balaklava, described the state of that harbour from the newspapers, and declared that if the regulations of the port had been what they ought to have been, even the Prince might have been saved. Order and regularity ought to be secured. The Duke of NEWCASTLE explained, that up to the 17th October Sir Edmund Lyons was the responsible officer, and subsequently Captain Dares and Captain Drummond. Admiral Boxer has been ordered from the Bosphorus to undertake the duties at Balaklava; and Admiral Stopford will succeed him in the Bosphorus. According to the statement made in the newspapers, there appears to be a want of organization at the port of Balaklava; and Lord Raglan will be called upon to make inquiry into this alleged gross neglect.

In reply to Lord ELLENBOROUGH, the Duke of NEWCASTLE said that every ship carries assorted stores; that the Prince was an instance of this, as she carried a regiment, ammunition, warm clothing, and medical stores. The whole of the warm clothing was not carried by the Prince; various ships have since arrived with warm clothing; and every ship leaving the country carries some. The medical stores were unfortunately placed at the bottom of the Prince's hold; but if these enormous ships do not load at one port, there is great difficulty in arranging the cargo.

Lord HARDWICK introduced the question respecting the exchange of the frigate *Thetis* for two gunboats, the property of the Prussian Government, which, either as a mercantile transaction or a matter of policy, he described as a very bad bargain. Lord CLARENDOFF defended the bargain. The gunboats, were at the time at which it was made, very much wanted, and the Prussians, though they had not delivered them in time to be of any service this year, had held us to our contract.

On Thursday, Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT, in reply to Sir G. HATHCOTE, gave some information respecting the means of shelter provided for the troops. An order was, at an early period, given by the Government for the construction of wooden houses. When a communication was received from Lord Raglan saying that wooden houses would be required, a portion of them were already at sea, and were now approaching the Bosphorus. Others were also about to be sent from this country; but as it was believed that the number that could be constructed here would not be sufficient for the whole army in the Crimea, the Government

sent an order by telegraph to Lord de Redcliffe, requesting him to forward as many wooden houses as possible to the Crimea; at the same time orders were sent to Sinope to purchase timber for the same purpose. A despatch was likewise sent to Lord Westmoreland, at Vienna, requesting him to be forwarded to the same destination; and he understood that Austrian Lloyd's steamers had left Trieste with a number of huts on board for the Crimea. A considerable portion of the warm clothing had already arrived at Balaklava, and a further portion was now at sea on its way to the Crimea. By the last letter received from Lord Raglan it was stated that the warm clothing was being distributed. Orders had been given to issue clothing both to officers and to men exactly similar in appearance. With regard to the new pattern for the uniform of the army, the distinction which had hitherto prevailed between the officers and men was to a very great degree diminished. There were no epaulettes to the officers' uniform, and the difference in the braid was entirely done away with.

On Friday, Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT stated that the last accounts from Balaklava gave the numbers of sick and wounded in the field and general hospitals at 2,393; and in the hospitals at Scutari at 3,550; making a total of 5,943. He was afraid, however, that the subsequent returns would show a considerable addition to those numbers. The stoppages deducted from the pay of the sick amounted to 3d. per day, which was the same as was exacted from the soldiers when in health for their rations. It was the intention of the Government to arm the whole of the troops in the Crimea with the Minié rifle, and the new pieces were issued to the men as fast as they were brought in by the contractors.

On Friday, Colonel DUNN asked whether the Government had received any communication from General Vandermere, an officer of high character, Colonel Palmer, and other Belgian officers, as to the formation of a Belgian legion? Mr. S. HERBERT said the Foreigners Enlistment Bill had not yet received parliamentary sanction; and until that measure should have passed the Government would have no authority to enter into any negotiations of the kind. (A laugh.)

MISCELLANEOUS.

On Friday, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER intimated that among his financial proposals for the ensuing year would be one for maintaining the tea duty at its present rate of 1s. 6d. per lb. until the termination of the war.

In reply to Mr. COWAN, on Friday, the LORD ADVOCATE said that the Public Houses (Scotland) Act stood in exactly the same position as a great many others in Scotland, respecting which it might be matter for very serious consideration whether alterations should not be made in them.

In reply to Sir G. PEARCE, Lord JOHN RUSSELL said that the late Governor of Cuba had certainly put the decrees for the abolition of the slave-trade in execution with great zeal. No accounts had been received at the Foreign-office as to the proceedings of the present governor, General Concha; but before quitting Madrid, in August last, he gave an assurance to Lord Howden that in everything relating to the fraudulent introduction of negroes into the island, the British Government would find in him a vigorous and uncompromising enemy of the slave-trade, and that he was also determined to maintain to the utmost the slave-trade treaties which had been entered into with this country. (Hear, hear.) Sir J. GRAHAM added, that since the last session the squadron under the command of Admiral Fanshawe had been largely augmented; and the attention of that gallant officer had been called to the importance of using every exertion to suppress the slave-trade on the coast of Cuba.

The notices of motions on the order book of the House of Commons include bills for the total abolition of Church Rates by Sir W. CLAY, for the alteration of Marriage Laws by Mr. Heywood, and for the better encouragement of general education in England and Wales by Sir J. Pakington.

On the motion of Mr. HADFIELD, the following has been ordered:—Amended and supplemental return to the returns of Professors Dr. John Edgar, Mr. Edward Masson, and the Rev. William Gibson, under the order of this House dated the 20th day of July last, and omitted in the return ordered to be printed the 12th day of August last; and also for returns of the Rev. John Ferrie, and J. R. Young, Esq., under the said order, and not made; and also for the accounts ordered and not yet returned of fees and emoluments (over and above Government allowance) derived and received by the said Professors Dr. Edgar, Mr. Masson, and Mr. Gibson, or by Professors the Rev. Dr. Cooke, Dr. W. D. Kellin, Dr. Montgomery, and John Scott Porter, from the 31st day of March, 1853, to the 31st day of March, 1854, from students under their instruction respectively, or otherwise howsoever as such professors, distinguishing the amount paid by each student to the said professors respectively, and the total amount received during said last-mentioned period by each of such professors; and also stating what services were rendered, and when, and for what period, and in what capacity, by the said Mr. Young, on account of which he has a claim or retiring pension of £150 a-year.

ENLISTMENT OF FOREIGNERS BILL DIVISION.—DECEMBER 19.

For the second reading	241
Against it	202
Tellers	4
The Speaker	1
Absent	200
Vacant Seats—Marylebone, Gloucestershire East, Limerick County, Antrim, Ayrshire	6—211

654

FOR THE SECOND READING.

Adair, H. E.	Gladstone, W.	Pechell, Sir G. B.
Adair, R. A. S.	Glyn, G. O.	Peel, Sir R.
Anderson, Sir J.	Goodman, Sir G.	Peel, F.
Annesley, Earl	Gordon, Hon. A.	Peel, Gen.
Atherton, W.	Gower, Hon. F.	Pellatt, A.
Bagshaw, J.	Grace, O. D. J.	Perry, Sir T. E.
Baines, M. T.	Graham, Sir J.	Phillips, J. H.
Ball, J.	Greene, J.	Phillimore, E. J.
Baring, Sir F. T.	Greene, F.	Phinn, T.
Barnes, T.	Gregson, S.	Pigott, F.
Bass, M. T.	Greenfell, C. W.	Pilkington, J.
Berkeley, Hon. H.	Grey, Sir G.	Pollard Urquhart, W.
Bethell, Sir E.	Grey, R. W.	Portman, Hon. W.
Biddulph, R. M.	Grosvenor, Lord R.	Price, Sir R.
Biggs, W.	Grosvenor, Earl	Ramden, Sir J.
Blackett, J. F. B.	Gurney, J. H.	Reed, J. H.
Bland, L. H.	Hall, Sir B.	Ricardo, J.
Bonham Carter, J.	Hankey, T.	Ricardo, O.
Bouverie, Hon. E.	Harcourt, G. G.	Rich, H.
Brady, J.	Hardinge, Hon. C. S.	Richardson, J.
Bramstone, T. W.	Hastie, Alex.	Robartes, T. J.
Brand, Hon. H.	Hastie, Ar.	Robuck, J. A.
Brookhurst, J.	Headlam, T. E.	Rambold, C. E.
Brookman, E. D.	Heathcote, Sir G. W.	Russell, Lord J.
Brotherton, J.	Heathcote, G. H.	Russell, P. C. H.
Brown, H.	Heneage, G. F.	Russell, F. W.
Brown, W.	Herbert, H. A.	Sadler, J.
Bruce, Lord E.	Herbert, S.	Sawle, C. E. G.
Butler, C. S.	Hervey, Lord A.	Scholefield, W.
Byng, Hon. G. H.	Hogg, Sir J. W.	Schoell, Capt.
Cardwell, E.	Howard, Hon. C.	Scrope, G. P.
Caulfield, Col. J.	Howard, Lord E.	Scully, F.
Cavendish, Hon. O.	Hughes, W. B.	Scully, V.
Chambers, T.	Hutchins, E. J.	Seymour, H. D.
Chaplin, W. J.	Hut, W.	Seymour, W. D.
Cheetham, J.	Ingram, R.	Seymour, W. D.
Clay, Sir W.	Jackson, W.	Shatto, R. D.
Clinton, Lord R.	Jermyn, Earl	Shelburne, Earl
Cockburn, Sir A.	Keating, H. S.	Smith, J. A.
Coffin, W.	Keogh, W.	Smith, R. V.
Cogan, W. H. P.	Kershaw, J.	Smollett, A.
Collier, R. P.	King, Hon. P. J. L.	Stafford, Marquis
Cowan, C.	Kinnaird, Hon. A.	Steel, J.
Cowper, Hon. W.	Labouchere, H.	Stephenson, R.
Currie, R.	Laing, S.	Stirling, W.
Dalkeith, Earl of	Langton, H. G.	Strickland, Sir G.
Dashwood, Sir G. H.	Lee, W.	Sutton, J. H. M.
Davis, Sir H. R. F.	Lindsay, W. S.	Tancred, H. W.
Denison, J. E.	Locke, J.	Thompson, G.
Divett, E.	Loveden, F.	Thornely, T.
Drumlanrig, Lord	Low, R.	Thornhill, W. F.
Duff, G. S.	Luce, T.	Townshend, J.
Duke, Sir J.	Mackinnon, W.	Tynte, Col. C. J.
Duncan, Lord	McGregor, J.	Uxbridge, Earl
Duncan, G.	Mangles, R. D.	Vernon, G. H.
Dungarvan, Lord	Manners, Lord G.	Villiers, C. F.
East, Sir J. B.	Marjoribanks, D. C.	Vivian, H. H.
Elcho, Lord	Martin, J.	Warner, E.
Ellice, E.	Massey, W. N.	Waterpark, Lord
Elliot, Hon. J. E.	Matheson, Sir J.	Watson, W. H.
Esmonde, J.	Milligan, R.	Wells, W.
Ewart, W.	Miller, W. M. E.	Whitman, J.
Fagan, W.	Milnes, R. M.	Whitbread, S.
Fellden, M. J.	Mitchell, T. A.	Wickham, H. W.
Fergus, J.	Molesworth, Sir W.	Wigram, L. T.
Ferguson, Col.	Moncreiff, J.	Wilkinson, W.
Ferguson, Sir R.	Monnell, W.	Williams, M.
Fitzgerald, Sir J.	Moslyn, Hon. E.	Williams, W.
Fitzgerald, J. D.	Mulgrave, Earl	Wilson, J.
Fitzroy, Hon. H.	Murphy, F.	Winnington, Sir T. E.
Fitzwilliam, Hon. G.	O'Brien, P.	Wood, Sir C.
Forster, C.	O'Brien, J.	Wordley, J. S.
Forster, J.	O'Connell, D.	Wrightson, W.
Fortescue, C. S.	O'Connell, J.	Wyndham, W.
Fox, W. J.	Osborne, R.	Wyvill, M.
Freeston, Col.	Owen, Sir J.	Young, Sir J.
Freshfield, J. W.	Paget, Lord A.	
	Palmerston, Lord	
	Patten, J. W.	
	Paxton, Sir J.	

AGAINST THE SECOND READING.

Adderley, G. B.	Gaskell, J. M.	Mundy, W.
Alcock, T.	George, J.	Muntz, G. F.
Alexander, J.	Gibson, T. M.	Murrough, J. P.
Arbuthnot, Gen.	Gilpin, Col.	Nasas, Lord
Archdall, Capt.	Gloce, Sir E. S.	Napier, J.
Arkwright, G.	Graham, Lord M.	Neeld, J.
Bailey, C.	Greenall, G.	Newark, Lord
Ball, E.	Grogan, E.	Newdegate, C. N.
Baldock, E. H.	Guinness, R. S.	Newport, Lord
Banks, G.	Hadfield, G.	Noel, Hon. G. J.
Baring, T.	Hale, R. B.	North, Col.
Barrington, Lord	Hall, Gen.	Oakes, J. H. P.
Barrow, W. H.	Hamilton, Lord G.	Oatway, A. J.
Bateson, T.	Hamilton, G. A.	Packe, C. W.
Bentinck, Lord H.	Hamilton, J. H.	Packington, Sir J.
Bentinck, G. W.	Hanbury, Hon. C.	Palk, L.
Beresford, W.	Hayes, Sir E.	Palmer, Robert
Berkeley, Sir G.	Henley, J. W.	Parker, R.
Boldero, Col.	Herbert, Sir T.	Phillimore, J. G.
Booker, T. W.	Hildyard, R. C.	Portal, M.
Bright, J.	Hill, Lord A. E.	Powlett, Lord W.
Bunbury, W. B.	Horsfall, T. B.	Pritchard, J.
Burroughes, H.	Hotham, Lord	Pugh, D.
Butt, G. M.	Hudson, G.	Robertson, P. F.
Butt, I.	Hume, W. F.	Rolt, P.
Cairns, H. M. C.	Johnstone, J.	Rushout, Col.
Campbell, Sir A.	Jolliffe, Sir W. G.	Sanders, G.
Carnac, Sir J. R.	Kelly, Sir F. W.	Scott, Hon. F.
Cecil, Lord R.	Kendall, N.	Seymour, H. K.
Chambers, M.	Kennedy, T.	Shelley, Sir J. V.
Chelsea, Lord	Knatchbull, W.	Sibthorp, Col.
Cholmondeley, Ld. H.	Knightley, R.	Smith, Sir W.
Christopher, R.	Knox, Col.	Smith, J. B.
Christy, S.	Knox, Hon. W.	Smith, A.
Clinton, Lord C. P.	Laffan, R. M.	Smyth, J. G.
Cobbett, J. M.	Langton, W. G.	Spooner, R.
Cobbold, J. C.	Laurie, J.	Stanhope, J. B.
Cobden, R.	Lennox, Lord A.	Stanley, Lord
Cocks, T. S.	Lennox, Lord H.	Stuart, W.
Codrington, Sir W.	Leslie, C. P.	Sturt, H. G.
Coles, H. B.	Liddell, Hon. H.	Swift, R.
Conolly, T.	Lindsay, Hon. Col.	Thesiger, Sir F.
Corry, H. L.	Lisburne, Earl	Tollmache, J.
Davies, D. A. S.	Lockhart, A. E.	Tomlins, G.
Deedes, W.	Lockhart, W.	Trollope, Sir J.
Dering, Sir E.	Lowaine, Lord	Tudway, R. C.
Disraeli, B.	Lowther, Col.	Tyler, Sir G.
Drax, J. S. W. S. E.	Lowther, Capt.	Tyrell, Sir J. T.
Drummond, H.	Lytton, Sir B. E.	Vance, J.
Duckworth, Sir J. T.	Macartney, G.	Vanitart, G. H.
Duncombe, Hon. W.	Macgregor, J.	Vernor, Sir W.
Dunne, Col.	MacMahon, P.	Vernon, L. N.
Egerton, W. T.	Maddock, Sir H.	Villiers, Hon. F.
Egerton, E. C.	Malins, R.	Vyryan, Sir R. R.
Elmley, Lord	March, Earl	Vyse, Col.
Evelyn, W. J.	Masterman, J.	Waddington, D.
Farrer, J.	Maunsell, T. F.	Walcott, Admiral
Fitzgerald, W.	Meux, Sir H.	Walmesley, J.
Fitzwilliam, Hon. C.	Miall, R.	Walsh, Sir J. B.
Floyer, J.	Miles, W.	Whitcliffe, J.
Follett, B. S.	Milton, Lord	Whitmore, H.
Forester, Col.	Nichell, W.	Wood, B. T.
Franklyn, G. W.	Montgomery, H.	Wyndham, Gen.
Frewen, C. H.	Montgomery, Sir G.	Wyndham, H.
Fuller, A. E.	Moore, J. B.	Yorke, Hon. E.
Gallwey, Sir W.	Morgan, O.	
Galway, Lord	Mowbray, J. R.	
Gardner, R.	Mullings, J. E.	

Taylor, Col.
Mandeville, Lord

THE ASSEMBLY.

Bage, William	Burton, Earl of	Meagher, Thomas
Bailley, Sir Joseph	Farham, Edward B	Mills, Thomas
Baillie, Henry J	Fellowes, Edward	Moffatt, George
Baird, James	Flimer, Sir Edmund	Monck, Viscount
Baring, Henry B	Foley, John H H	Moody, Charles A
Baring, Hn Francis	Forbes, William	Moore, George H
Barnish, Francis B	Forster, Sir George	Moore, Ross S
Beaumont, W B	Fox, Richard M	Morris, David
Beckett, William	French, Fitzstephen	Mowatt, Francis
Beckwith, Earl of	Gladstone, Captain	Mure, Colonel
Bell, James	Goddard, Ambrose L	Norrey, Sir D J
Bellows, Thomas A	Goderich, Viscount	O'Brien, Sir Timothy
Benbow, John	Gore, William O	O'Flaherty, Anthony
Bennet, Philip	Goulburn, Rt Hon H	O'Leary, Benjamin
Berkley, Hon C F	Granby, Marquis of	Oswalton, Lord
Bernard, Viscount	Greaves, Edward	Paget, Lord G
Blake, Martin J	Greville, Col. Falke	Palmer, Roundell
Blanford, Marquis	Guarney, Lord	Peacocke, G M W
Booth, Sir Robert G	Gwyn, Howel	Pennant, Hon. Col.
Bowyer, George	Haddo, Lord	Percy, Hon. J W
Brees, C L G	Halford, Sir Henry	Peto, S M
Bruce, Hon. Austin	Hammer, Sir John	Ponsonby, H A G
Buck, Lewis W	Harcourt, Colonel	Power, Nicholas
Buckley, General	Hawkins, Wm W	Price, W Philip
Bulkeley, Sir R B	Heard, John Isaac	Repton, G W J
Buller, Sir John Y	Heathcote, Sir Wm	Rice, Edward Royd
Burghley, Lord	Henchy, D O'Connor	Roche, Edmund B
Burke, Sir Thomas J	Heneage, G H W	Rothschild, Baron
Burrell, Sir Chas M	Herbert, Hn. P E	Sadler, James
Cabbell, Benjamin B	Heywood, James	Seymour, Lord
Cadell, Viscount	Heworth, Lawrence	Sheridan, R B
Cavendish, Hon G	Higgins, Geo G O	Shirley, Evelyn P
Cayley, Edward S	Hindley, Charles	Smith, M Tucker
Challis, Alderman	Horsman, Edward	Smith, W Masters
Chandos, Marquis of	Hume, Joseph	Somerset, Captain
Child, Smith	Irton, Samuel	Sotheron, T H S
Child, Henry M	Johnston, Sir J	Stanley, Hon. W O
Clive, Robert	Jones, Captain	Starkie, Le Gendre
Colville, Charles R	Jones, David	Strutt, Rt. Hon. E
Compton, Henry O	Ker, David Stewart	Sullivan, Michael
Coots, Sir Charles H	Kerrison, Sir E O	Talbot, C R M
Cornwall, M Elias	King, James King	Tempest, Lord A V
Cotton, Hon W H	Kingscote, R N F	(in the Crimea)
Cranford, Ed. Hy. J	Kirk, William	Trall, George
Crook, Joseph	Knight, F W	Vane, Lord Harry
Crosby, Frank	Lacon, Sir Edmund	Vivian, John Ennis
Cubitt, Mr. Alderman	Langhian, James H	Vivian, John Henry
Dalrymple, Viscount	Lascelles, Hon. E	Waddington, H S
Davison, Richard	Laslett, William	Walpole, Rt. Hon. S
Denison, Edmund	Layard, Austen H	Walter, John
Dent, John Dent	Lay, John Henry	Watkins, Colonel
Devereux, John T	Lemes, Sir C	Welby, Sir G E
Dod, John Whitehall	Lewis, Hon. Sir T F	Wellesley, Lord C
Duff, James	Liddell, H G	West, Frederick R
Duffy, Charles Gavan	Littleton, Hon. E R	Willcox, B M Gie
Duncombe, Thomas	Long, Walter	Williams, T P
Duncombe, Hn Art	Luce, Frederick	Willoughby, Sir H
Duncombe, Hn Oct	Lushington, C M	Wise, Aysford
Dundas, George	Macaulay, Rt. Hon. T	Wodehouse, E
Dundas, Frederick	Mackie, John	Wynn, Lieut. Col.
Dunlop, Alex M	M'Cann, James	Wynne, W W E
Dunne, Michael	M'Garratt, Sir J	
Du Pra, C George	Magan, W H	
Egerton, Sir Philip	Maguire, John P	
Ellis, Edward	Manners, Lord John	
Enlly, Viscount	Marshall, William	
Evans, Sir de Laoy	Matheson, A	
(in the Crimea.)	Maxwell, Hon. J P	

The majority of 39 in favour of the second reading of the bill exhibits a large reduction in the majorities usually recorded in favour of Ministerial measures. This is owing to the hostile votes of gentlemen, who, for the most part, go with the Ministers; such as Mr. Alcock, Mr. Bright, Mr. Milner Gibson, Mr. Cobden, Mr. Montagu Chambers, Mr. William Fitzgerald, Mr. Richard Gardner (Leicester), Mr. Hadfield, Mr. Miall, Mr. Munts, Sir John Shelley, Mr. John Benjamin Smith, Sir Joshua Walsley, Mr. John Morgan Cabbell, Viscount Milton, Mr. Fitzwilliam (Malton), Mr. Otway, Mr. John Phillimore, Mr. Richard Swift. Without extending the list further, it may be remarked that the names specified are nineteen in number, and that had the votes been given on the side of Ministers, the majority would have been swelled to 77; had they abstained from voting, the majority would have been 68. Birmingham and Sheffield were each neutralized by the opposing votes of their Members; the Fitzwilliam family went against Ministers; the brothers Phillimore went into opposite lobbies. The Earl of Dalkeith, Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, the Earl of Annesley, Mr. Bramston, Mr. Freshfield, Sir James East, Mr. Charles Stewart Hardinge, Lord George Manners, Mr. Robert Stephenson, and Mr. Wigram, left their party and voted for the bill.

Of the preceding absentees, the following Members neutralized the denial of their votes by "pairing off."

FOR	AGAINST
Mr. Macaulay	Mr. S. Child
Mr. Rice	Mr. Dod
Hon. W. O. Stanley	Mr. Wynn
Mr. Foley	Mr. H. Waddington
General Buckley	Mr. Compton
Mr. Sheridan	Mr. Clive
Mr. E. Miles sen.	Mr. Long
Mr. Langston	Mr. Davidson
Sir J. Johnstone	Lord Ossoultun
Mr. Mackie	Mr. H. Gwyn
Mr. Strutt	Mr. Buck
Viscount Monk	Mr. H. Liddell
Mr. Heard	Lord Bernard
Lord Goderich	Marquis of Granby
Mr. Beaumont	Mr. Forbes
Mr. G. Cavendish	Mr. E. Lascelles
Sir W. Somerville	Sir G. Forster
Mr. W. Marshall	Mr. Irton
Viscount Dalrymple	Mr. Du Pre
Lord Emily	Mr. Greaves

THE WAR.

THE SIEGE OF SEBASTOPOL.

The latest published letters from the camp date from the 3rd to the 7th inst. Except that on the 6th the weather became suddenly fine, the descriptions are of an intensely gloomy description—unrelieved but by traits of gallantry, patience, and devotion. On the 4th, the *Times* special correspondent writes:—"Chaos has come again, or rather has just departed from the scene. A grand plateau of bog, varying in depth from a foot to two feet, extends from the valley of Inkermann to the sea at Balaklava. It is trodden into holes in every direction by the hoofs of mules, horses, and camels; it is scarred deeply by the wheels of carts and arabas; and the white tents dotting its surface, a few scattered white farm-houses, and the snug quarters of Lord Raglan, contrast strongly with

the black profound amid which they rear their straight outlines. All over its surface are strewn the carcasses of horses and miserable animals, torn by dogs and smothered in mud. Vultures sweep over the mounds in flocks; carrion crows and "birds of prey obscene" hover over their prey, menace the hideous dogs who are feasting below, or sit in gloomy dyspepsia, with drooped head and drooping wings, on the remnants of their banquet. It is over this ground, gained at last by great toil and exhaustion and loss of life on the part of the starving beasts of burden, that man and horse have to struggle from Balaklava for some four or five miles with the hay and corn, the meat, the biscuit, the pork, which form the subsistence of our army. Every day this toil must be undergone, for we are fed indeed by daily bread, and only get half rations of it. Horses drop exhausted on the road, and their loads are removed and added to the burdens of the struggling survivors; then, after a few efforts to get out of their Slough of Despond, the poor brutes succumb and lie down to die in their graves. Men wade and plunge about, and stumble through the mud, with muttered imprecations, or sit down on a projecting stone, exhausted, pictures of dirt and woe unutterable. Sometimes on the route the overworked and sickly soldier is seized with illness, and the sad aspect of a fellow-countryman dying before his eyes shocks every passer-by—the more because aid is all but hopeless and impossible."

The same writer points out instances in which a little attention and care would save great trouble to the men, and husband their strength. The coffee served out is the green unburnt berry. The men have neither roasting nor gridiron apparatus. "The top of a mess tin is made to do duty for the one, and is spoilt; a couple of stones is used in lieu of the other, and spoil the coffee; but the hardship of roasting and grinding the berry over small bits of sticks, and in wet and storm can only be known by those who try to get a breakfast by adopting these conditions of obtaining it. The French are generally provided with coffee-mills and roasters, but even when they have no such appliance experience has suggested a hundred means of supplying the deficiency. These are not 'grumbles,' but honest complaints against the perpetuation of remedial grievances. The want of clothing, the want of fuel, the want of shelter, the want of food, which have cost the army and the nation so dearly, might, I sincerely and solemnly believe, have been obviated by a small exertion of ordinary 'prévoyance.'"

The *Daily News* correspondent is still more specific in his complaints—"Although I gave some of those distressing statistics in my former letters, I believe I forgot to mention that the 13th Lancers have only thirty horses alive, and these are 'all legs,' and so 'hill-starved' that in their present condition—which is not likely to improve—they are altogether unfit for cavalry service. Of the men, both of cavalry and infantry, I can only repeat my former assertion, that very large numbers of them fall victims to the climate, the fatigues of the siege, and the want of the most common means of comfort and cure, when suffering from complaints which, under our peculiar circumstances alone, are malignant and next to incurable. Of the hardships to which our troops are exposed I have often complained, not because I wanted an adequate appreciation of the straits of war, but because, with the means at our command and the generous disposition of the nation to do all and every thing for the army, I consider one-half of these hardships unnecessary. With common care our troops might have been huddled before the setting in of the rainy season. With common care, field hospitals of wood and straw work might have been erected for the reception of the wounded. With common care, medicines would not be allowed to rot in bulk at Constantinople, while brave men die and doctors despair for the want of them."

To a graphic description of officers, all unshaven and torn, wading through the bog under a load of such provender as can be got at Balaklava for five times the legitimate value, the *Times* correspondent adds:—"The vast majority of them are the noblest, cheeriest, bravest fellows in Europe—men who defy privation, neglect, storm, and tempest—who, in the midst of difficulties, rarely despond and never despair, and who comfort and animate by the brightest examples of courage and high valour, of constancy and unflinching resolution, the gallant fellows around them." But there are exceptions. The number of applications sent to Lord Raglan for leave to retire, to sell out, or to go on half-pay, is said to be very great. Some of these have, it is stated, been acceded to—that is, Lord Raglan has sent them to the Commander-in-Chief of the army, with rather sarcastic recommendations that the permission sought for be granted. If report be true, indeed, some of these gentlemen were "no great loss," and the army is well rid of them. One young person, who recently retired, and who belongs to the nobility, to whose gallant conduct here he offered a striking contrast, had been publicly rebuked by his commanding officer for his disorderly and pusillanimous behaviour before he retired.

The mortality and sickness among the troops is very great. The regiments lately arrived, and the recent drafts from England, have particularly suffered. The 46th Regiment have buried upwards of 100 of their number; the 97th Regiment, which has only been encamped a fortnight, have already lost 36 men. One seventh of the Light Division is on the sick list. Among the Turks it has assumed all the dimensions of a plague. "The dead are frightful to look upon—emasculated to the last degree, with the faces and heads swollen and discoloured, and drops of blood stealing down from nose and ear; there they are, lying out in ranks on the hill side, while the living, who seem soon about to follow them, dig their graves. I can count 36 bodies already on the ground, and it is early in the day; over the hill side come men bearing some litters.

Before the body is interred, the clothes are taken off and laid on one side, an officer in attendance decently washes the corpse with water, pours a little of the same fluid down the throat, and composes the limbs, and, after a few words of prayer, the Mussulman is placed beside his fellows. As the result of such a mode of burial would be the outbreak of some all-destrorying pestilence, the Commandant of the place has ordered it to be discontinued, and the Turks must in future bury their dead outside the town, in the valley, in graves four feet deep."

One sad consequence of the overworked and underfed condition of the men, is, their liability to surprise. "It is no wonder that men who may have carried a considerable load from Balaklava to the camp, and who may be sent out after a scanty meal to pass 12 hours in a ditch, are sometimes less vigilant than they ought to be for the safety of the army. In some such way was it that the pickets of the 60th were surprised the other night in front of the right attack, and, indeed, report says some of the men were bayoneted by the Russians as they lay in their blankets. It was just at the time that the reliefs came down that they were attacked, and the Rifles, who were moving at the time and repulsed the enemy, have spread a pleasant mist that the Russians relieved the 60th, and we relieved the Russians."

The French repulse of the sortie of the night of the 20th, appears to have been a very spirited affair. It was followed by the Battle of the Ovens—in which the English were engaged.—A little before midnight the French picket, who have lately had considerable experience in these sorties, heard an unusual amount of noise and bustle going on in the Flag-staff Battery. One of them volunteered to advance, and creeping forward unobserved, distinguished through the gloom a body of Russians, between 2,000 and 3,000 strong, forming in column in the rear of the battery. He instantly returned, but in doing so was seen and fired at by the enemy, who began to move forward in the direction of the French earthwork. Fortunately, however, by that time all in it were on the alert, and instead of waiting, as they should have done, and firing on the enemy from under cover, they determined upon sallying out and meeting the Russians on the glacis. With this view, the French, who were not more than 700 strong, mounted the parapet of the battery and awaited the assault. The musketry showed to our allies the precise position of the enemy, and taking cool aim from the parapet of the battery, they gave, in return, three murderous volleys, which told with fearful effect. The whole column of Russians wavered and halted, and the French, with more bravery than prudence, rushed from the battery and charged them with the bayonet. As they closed with their antagonists, the Russians, who had been rallied by the voice and example of their officers, fired a volley, which did comparatively but little mischief. Before they had time to repeat it, the French were among them with the bayonet, and a short but desperate struggle ensued. Each man used the bayonet or clubbed his musket according to his strength and the exigencies of the position; and, after a regular "scrimmage," which lasted about ten minutes, the enemy gave way, and rushed back to the town in all directions. The French pursued them to the very ditches of their batteries, but which, from the smallness of their force, they dare not then attempt to meddle with, and our gallant allies returned to the shelter of their own trenches. Some, however, found time to plunder the enemy's guard-house of beds, blankets, cooking-utensils, and so forth, all of which were much wanted by themselves. In the actual contest with the sortie party, the French lost 5 officers and 91 men killed and wounded. The Russians left the bodies of 1 officer and upwards of 250 men in front of the battery. The whole affair must have cost the enemy some 600 or 700 men *hors de combat*, and the allies were no further molested until yesterday morning, when they "tried their luck" upon the English, but with no better result, at the broken-down huts, close under the walls of Sebastopol, called indiscriminately the "Ovens" or the "Kitchens," because at the commencement of the siege the ruins were the head-quarters of the enemy's riflemen, and were used as places in which to cook the rations. The sortie was made at six in the morning, when about 350 of the 1st Royals held the place. The hour was singularly ill-chosen, for it was precisely at the time when the picket was being relieved by 350 of the 60th Regiment, so that double our usual garrison occupied the "Ovens." During the darkness about 1,500 of the Russian infantry from the Circular Battery, and in the confusion of relieving the picket, contrived to approach within fifty yards of the position before they were discovered. In an instant our men were in position, and remaining under cover of the ruins and broken ground, kept up a constant fire from all points upon the enemy as they advanced. The Russians, contrary to their usual custom, never returned a shot, but strove to close with the place, and drive our picket from their shelter. Only about 100 succeeded in the attempt, and instantly retreated again, appalled by the continuous fire which their unseen foes maintained. After a moment's pause they returned to the charge again, but with less spirit than at first, and, after a vain attempt to rally under the fire, retreated in disorder. Then, and not till then, our pickets advanced, and pursued them with the bayonet, making a few prisoners. On our side the loss was only 4 men killed and 17 wounded; the enemy, in prisoners, killed, and wounded, must have lost at least 200.

THE SICK AND WOUNDED.

The gentleman sent from the *Times* office to administer the Scutari fund, writes on the 10th:—"I hear that there are no less than 2,200 sick in hospital at Balaklava, and steamers continue to arrive thence reighted with as dismal cargoes of human suffering as

if they had on board the wounded after some great battle. Three days ago the Avon came down with more than 300 men, the vast majority of them dysentery and fever patients. Nor can one conceive a more miserable spectacle than those wasted beings presented, as, supported between stronger comrades, or borne on stretchers, they were conveyed to the hospitals. It was the intention of the authorities at Balaklava to send the Avon to sea with only two surgeons, one of whom was an invalid, and with not more than four orderlies to attend upon upwards of 300 sick. They were more than a fortnight in harbour, and their sufferings there were horrible. What their condition would have been upon the voyage may be conjectured from the experience of other vessels so employed; but, happily, a courageous medical officer on board took such vigorous measures to represent the case that a court of inquiry was held, and assistance obtained, somewhat proportioned to the exigencies of the case. It is earnestly to be hoped that the precedent thus set will be steadily followed until the transport service for the sick and wounded has been placed on a satisfactory footing. One or two steamers fitted up specially as hospitals, with stores and appliances on board, and running steadily between Scutari and Balaklava, would have obviated an amount of misery, and I am afraid I must add mortality, which it is painful to look back upon."

Deplorable as is the deficiency at Balaklava of comforts, or even necessities for the sick, the chaplains have been forbidden to distribute the articles entrusted to them for that purpose by the commissioner of the fund.

The hospital arrangements at Scutari continue to improve; but the increasing number of patients surrounds the management of such vast establishments with fresh difficulties. In the two buildings there cannot now be much less than 4,000 patients—an accumulation of suffering for which it is impossible in all respects satisfactorily to provide. Gangrene exists in many of the wards, and low fever also; but cholera, which reappeared some days ago, has fortunately not extended. Lord W. Paulet, has entered vigorously upon the discharge of his duties as Commandant, and his presence is already beneficially felt.

MOVEMENTS AT HOME.

The Government has entered into contracts for 50,000 Minié rifles and rifle carbines; the contracts have been taken by manufacturers at Liege, Birmingham, and London. The most extensive contracts have been taken by Belgian houses, and it is stated that the supply from all places will extend over 3,000 per week; the Government being extremely urgent, the workmen and women were engaged the whole of yesterday in the several branches of the trade.

The cavalry regiments in Ireland have received orders to raise each 120 men, instead of 60 already authorised, for each of the cavalry corps in the East, and have been directed to use every means in their power to have the men drilled within the prescribed period allowed for cavalry instruction—viz., four months. The Irish militia is being actively raised.

On Friday, a merchant ship which has been engaged by the committee of the Crimean Fund, left Irongate-wharf for the Crimea, heavily laden with provisions, clothing, &c., for the troops in the Crimea. The cargo consisted of several chests of tea, a large quantity of boxes containing coconuts, preserved vegetables, meat, and milk, coloured blankets, a supply of warm clothing, &c. The yacht of the Earl of Ellesmere was to follow immediately with a similar description of cargo. The Anne Maclean has sailed from Greenock with a complete cargo of comforts and necessities, the gift of Lord Blantyre, for gratuitous distribution to the Crimean army. She also took out a number of books, the special gift of Lady Blantyre.

For the last fortnight a party of French soldiers, under the command of Lieutenant Lestraille, have been staying at Gloucester, where a large contract has been entered into for the construction of wooden houses for the French army in the Crimea. Some of the inhabitants of Gloucester invited the strangers to a valedictory feast, which came off on Thursday night last, and was attended by about 100 gentlemen.

The Misses Collinson, of Bolden, sisters of the Arctic navigator, have made a hundred woollen masks or hoods to cover the face, similar to those used in their brother's vessel in the Polar regions, which have been sent off to the Crimea. The ladies of South Shields have collected £230, and the ladies of North Shields above £100, to be expended in the purchase of flannel and other comforts for our soldiers.

At a City Court of Lieutenancy held on Friday, Lord Palmerston's answer to an application from the Royal London Militia to be embodied for home or foreign service was read. The reply was ambiguous, but was understood to be an assent. It was therefore resolved to raise the force from 600 to 700 men. Colonel Wilson said his officers were burning with eagerness for foreign service.

RUSSIA AND THE GERMAN POWERS.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle* writes that not a doubt can exist that the authorities of Prussia, and, indeed, of the greater part of the German Governments, will strain every nerve to hinder their subjects of all classes from enrolment. It is even said that orders have already been issued to this effect; and that, in case individuals known or supposed to be employed on the recruiting service should take up their residence in any given place, they are to be directed, unless enlisted by law, to domicile in such place.

The Paris papers publish a letter from Berlin alleging that the Cabinet of Vienna has formally informed Prussia that it was disposed to accede to the proposal which she had made, to have the four points discussed in common at Vienna by Plenipotentiaries, and to have a positive understanding come to as to their precise meaning.

Colonel Manteuffel arrived at Vienna on Friday evening from Berlin. He was to be received by the Emperor in private audience.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Cologne Gazette* hints that the object of a special mission of a Prussian diplomatist to London is to obtain in advance a mild interpretation of the four points, and a promise not to press Russia for an indemnification on account of the costs of the war, and that these points conceded, Prussia will accede to the alliance.

A letter from Jassy of the 9th, in the *Augsburg Gazette*, says that some days past great activity has been perceptible among the Austrian troops of occupation, some regiments having advanced to the fortified points of the Sereth, and extended their advanced posts even as far as the Pruth. It is not yet known whether the main body would follow that direction. A sort of marauding warfare was even understood to have commenced on the Pruth. Detachments of Cossacks were crossing the river daily to pillage the country people along the frontier, and to set fire to the stores of hay and corn in the neighbourhood. The war between Austria and Russia is considered inevitable.

A letter from St. Petersburg says:—"As to Austria, every one here is furious against her, particularly since the communication made by Prince Gortschakoff. 'Russia will never forget or forgive her perfidy,' cried a lady the other evening in the saloons of M—. 'For my part, I am ready to give at this moment, as a contribution, 100 of my serfs for the regiment of Chasseurs.' Three days after the niece of the lady in question was appointed one of the ladies-in-waiting to the Empress, but the Emperor, at the same time, had an admonition conveyed to her to be cautious how she spoke of politics in society, and particularly in saloons which the attaches of the Austrian embassy frequented.

The *Post Ampt Gazette* of Frankfurt states from Vienna, that the settlement of the difficulties existing between Austria and Piedmont is considered near at hand in well informed circles, notwithstanding all the efforts of Russia to alienate Piedmont from Austria.

Count Zichy, who has carried to St. Petersburg the notification of the treaty of alliance of December 2, is an Hungarian: he was Imperial Commissioner to the Russian army in the Hungarian war, and is the husband of a Russian lady. He had an interview with Prince Paskiewitch, at Warsaw; and the Prince left that city with him for St. Petersburg.

The Baden Government has ordered its contingent, forming the 2nd division 8th Federal Corps, to be put on the war footing. Several other States are preparing to adopt the same steps, but before final orders are issued they will await the decisions of the military committee at Frankfurt.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

It is stated in letters from Warsaw that the arrival of the Guards has raised the effective of the Russian army in the kingdom of Poland to 200,000 men, with 400 guns.

The *Corriere Italiano* says the allied generals have hit upon a plan for throwing a strong light upon the fortifications of Sebastopol, by means of electricity, while the positions of the besieging armies will be shrouded in darkness.

The Abbe Ferrari, chaplain to the French army of the Crimea, died of cholera, at Constantinople, on the 7th inst. His funeral was attended by an immense crowd of Europeans. Dr. Levy pronounced an eloquent oration over the grave.

We have the following *via* Berlin:—"By an ukase dated the 18th, a levy of 10 men in every 1,000 throughout the eastern half of the Russian empire is decreed. This levy will commence on the 15th of February, and must be finished by the 15th of March. The Jews are not exempt."

According to accounts received at Berlin from St. Petersburg, Prince Menschikoff reports that, up to the evening of the 16th, nothing particular had occurred before Sebastopol. The unfavourable weather hindered the progress of works, and the enemy's fire was feeble, more especially on the side of the English batteries.

Lord Raglan has adopted the unusual practice of paying the non-commissioned officers and privates for trench work, in consideration of the length of the siege operations before Sebastopol, the constant labour the men had been called upon to perform, the inclemency of the weather, and the cheerfulness and goodwill they manifested in the discharge of their duty.

Constantinople letters of the 10th, in the *Constitutionnel*, state that the Duke of Cambridge was going to the Crimea again, instead of coming to England. Advices from Bucharest and Varna designate, with some confidence, Perekop as the object of the expedition, of which the Turkish troops from the Danube are to form a considerable part.

A letter from Christiana, 12th, in the *Boersenhalle* of Hamburg, says:—"The Minister of the Interior has made known that the French and English ambassadors at Stockholm have declared in the name of their Governments, by notes dated the 25th, that in the event of the blockade being renewed next spring, the commercial relations between Finmarken and the Russian ports in the White Sea, which continued last summer, will be no longer tolerated.

The *Oesterreichische Correspondenz* has letters from Odessa of the 12th, stating that the fear of an attack by the allies is so great that new strand batteries have been constructed and intrenchments made on the land side. The rainy weather continues, and the roads are so bad that it takes three days to travel 50 English miles in the Crimea. The garrison of Odessa now consists of 50,000 men. Eight steamers have been taking soundings off Etschakoff, and it is feared the allies will make a descent on Kinburn preparatory to an attack on Perekop.

Some of the German papers announce with confidence that Omar Pasha's army will land at Eupatoria

and march to Perekop, there to intercept the Russian supplies and reinforcements. It is added that Prince Menschikoff has pointed out to the Government of St. Petersburg the dangers which threaten his army and the fortress from this point, and that he has declared that he was not in a state to resist any considerable offensive operation directed from Eupatoria against Simpheropol. General Osten Sacken was in consequence charged to fix his head-quarters at Perekop, and to defend the isthmus with the troops under his command.

The same affair is thus described by the French Admiral:—"The Montezuma, Kamiesch, Dec. 7. Yesterday a Russian frigate and a Russian schooner left Sebastopol, and sailed in all haste towards the bay of Stréleska. The Megere, which was in advance, exchanged cannon shot with these two vessels, which were received at the entry of Stréleska by our two look-out ships, anchored in that bay. At the approach of an English frigate, which three other English and French frigates followed, the enemy retraced his route and returned in great haste to Sebastopol. None of the Russian balls reached our ships nor the left of our troops encamped at Stréleska."

The Russian Government published, on the 17th instant, in an extraordinary supplement of the *Invalide Russe*, the following account of the naval sortie from Sebastopol on the 6th:—"On the 16th of December two steamers, the Vladimir, Captain Boutakoff, and the Chersonesus, Commander Roudneff, were sent out from the roadstead of Sebastopol, for the purpose of doing some injury to the French steamer anchored off the bay. This enterprise was carried out with success enough; for while the French steamer was making haste to sheer off, under the protection of another steamer, also French, ours succeeded in sending after it a number of balls, some of which went plump into its hull. A large English steam three-decker, that came up to her assistance, having been lured on in pursuit, approached within range of the coast batteries, which carried away her mainyard and injured her paddle-box. On this occasion we experienced neither loss of men, nor any particular injury to the vessels." The "paddle-box" of a three-decker!

SOLDIERS' FRIEND AND ARMY SCRIPTURE READERS' SOCIETY.

A meeting for devotional exercises and addresses was convened by the committee of this society, at Exeter-hall, on Wednesday, to take leave of the Rev. George Campbell, B.A., incumbent of St. Mark's, Swindon, who is about to depart to the seat of war, to take the superintendence of the society's scripture readers labouring in the East. The Right Hon. Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P., took the chair at seven o'clock, and the proceedings were commenced with a devotional exercise, which was conducted by the Rev. R. W. Plumtre. In the course of his opening address the Chairman said, that statements had been made in the public prints that certain of the agents of this society had so far forgotten their duty as to introduce controversial matter into their conversations with the dying soldiers. He was happy to say that nothing had been heard by the society to justify such a statement. (Hear, hear.) The Rev. C. G. Young pointed out various indications now presented of spiritual good being likely to result from the war which is now being waged in the East. There could be no doubt that Turkey especially would be thereby largely opened to the reception of the Gospel. Some of the Mohammedan population were already becoming greatly changed in their opinions of the nature of Christianity by the Protestant type of it which is now being presented to their notice. The Hon. Major Powys, Vice-President of the Society, eulogised the character of the British soldier, and he expressed his great satisfaction in knowing that, in every company there were men of God, and it was now no longer considered a disgrace, as it once was, to see a soldier reading the Bible, or offering prayer to his Heavenly Father. The Rev. George Campbell then stated the circumstances under which he had been led to accept the office to which he was about to be appointed. The Rev. W. Wright, Chaplain to the Royal Artillery, addressed Mr. Campbell in a very solemn and affectionate manner. After a few words from the Rev. Mr. Ackworth, Vicar of Plumstead, a cordial vote of thanks was presented to the noble lord in the chair, who, in returning thanks, uttered a fervent prayer to God that he would be pleased to crown the armies of the allies with a speedy and signal victory. The singing of the Doxology closed the proceedings.

Several interesting letters have been received from the agents of this society in Turkey, giving the most satisfactory accounts of the usefulness and acceptability of their praiseworthy exertions. In one of these letters, Mr. T. K. De Verdon, after giving a picturesque view of the scenery, says:—

We walked to the gates of the hospital, and to our great sorrow saw groups of soldiers at intervals ascending on the opposite side from the shore: they were carrying the wounded from boats which lay below. As soon as a party of these soldiers approached, a sergeant having a book in his hand said, Halt! Then he addressed the wounded man, What is your name? What regiment? Where wounded? The replies to the last question aroused all our sympathy: sometimes the answer was, I have lost my right arm—then another, a musket ball in the thigh—then, four lance wounds, a sabre wound, and so on. When opportunity afforded we spoke to the sergeant, and presented him and others with small books and tracts. They said they were much obliged to us—that they were at a great loss for books or something to read at times. I particularly noticed the great care with which the bearers carried their comrades, halting or laying them down on the ground when desired, and we could not but notice the manly and soldier-like spirit evinced by the sufferers. A soldier looked wistfully at me. I found on going to him

that he had suffered from the lance—he had four wounds inflicted by that weapon. After a few words informing him of my object, he pointed to a Bible and Prayer Book beside him. I took up the Prayer Book and read one of the Psalms for the day, and also the Epistle and Gospel: he was pleased, and I began to feel that my feeble services, through God's blessing, would not be in vain.

The people of England can scarcely conceive the sufferings to which the troops have been exposed in this war, and the courage with which they have borne up against severe privation, and the fortitude with which they have endured their wounds. Several of the soldiers' wives have met me about the hospital and barracks and stated their necessities. A committee might be formed here of persons capable of investigating their claims and affording aid. I was informed at the barracks to-day, that more than thirty ladies had arrived to act as Sisters of Mercy. I had not time to enquire particulars; but if some of those ladies from England could devote a portion of their time to the poor women who have accompanied their husbands to the war, they would find ample scope for the exercise of their Christian benevolence.

Mr. G. S. Spencer forwards a letter from Sentari, dated the 14th November, in which he says:—

It was pleasing to see the attention they showed to the word of God. My labours were among the 47th Foot, Coldstream Guards, 13th Light Dragoons, and Artillery. I found English, Irish, and Scotch, all much pleased to hear an English voice and to listen to the glad tidings. The son of a deacon of an Independent church; the servant of a Presbyterian minister; Churchmen, Wesleyans, and others—all recollecting and speaking of their youthful privileges. I need scarcely recount their wounds—amputated legs, arms, shattered limbs and joints: but they were cheerful and mostly recovering. I assured them, if one thing would be prayed for more earnestly than another that day in England, it would be for the poor soldiers. They seemed greatly pleased with the thoughts of how England felt and subscribed for her soldiers, and remarked there never had been such things done before. I assure you the gratitude of the poor fellows is very great; and when I offer them a book, the inquiry, "Is it a religious book, Sir?" and the thanks afterwards, cheer me in the work.

In a letter dated Hadi Kein, November 12, Mr. J. O. Fellows states that there were then upwards of 6,000 wounded men at Sentari, all needing religious instruction, consolation or warning. Amongst them was an extraordinary desire for religious tracts. Hitherto, there had been no more than two chaplains, and one priest to attend to their spiritual concerns. He mentions several instances in which salutary results had attended his labours. The following is an extract:—

Another case of hopeful death was that of Rowstone, lying in the corridor—he belonged also to the 23rd. He lost a leg at the battle of Alma, mortification set in after a few days and (I fear, for want of proper medical attendance) cut short that life which had scarcely begun to bloom. From his appearance I should think he was not more than eighteen or twenty years old; as I passed one evening I saw him writhing in pain, and his comrades gathered round him, one of whom was endeavouring to feed him, but he could not take anything; I stopped to converse with him about eternal things, I was pleased with his manner and the answers he gave to a few questions put to him, and promised to see him in the morning and bring him some jelly. His comrades appeared to feel much for him and one told me, with the big tear starting into his eye, that this young man had done nothing for several days, but read aloud the tracts Mr. Schaffler and I had left, and, said my informant, "he talks beautiful, of nothing but religion." In the morning I again visited him, and being detained an hour or two longer than I expected in another part of the hospital, was almost too late with my small present. He lay like death itself before me, and the men said, "It is very kind Sir, but you are too late." Oh! how I wished I had made more haste; but the sound of my voice roused him, and we then succeeded in getting him to take a little jelly. I was indeed too late to converse with him, for I found he was delirious; however I trust it was not so as regards his comrades, while the last sands of that youth's life was falling through, I remained by him moistening his parched mouth and preaching Christ to those who were gathered around his dying bed. On his tomb I believe it may truthfully be written "He sleeps in Jesus."

The mortality is again rising in consequence of the numbers of bad cases lately received. The average is about twelve or fifteen per day; some say it is much more. I suppose amongst the large amount of information continually flying off from beneath the ribs of "our own correspondent" you have heard of the manner in which our poor countrymen are buried in Sentari; after visiting the Hospital on Saturday the twenty-first, I witnessed the burial of seven poor fellows, they were all put into one large hole, four being Catholics they were buried first, and a thin layer of earth spread over the bodies, then came the remaining three, Protestants. While the former were being buried, some four or five Turkish women assembled around the grave and really wept in such a manner, that a stranger would have been easily misled in supposing they had lost near relatives; indeed, so great was their wail they attracted the attention of the priest and all present, and not until I had spoken to them several times, did they cease sufficiently for the priest to proceed.

Postscript.

OPENING OF THE FRENCH CHAMBERS.

The Emperor Napoleon III. opened yesterday the session of the Senate and Corps Legislatif; in a speech which was immediately transmitted to the London newspapers by the Submarine Telegraph Company; and of which the following is a translation:—

Gentlemen, Senators, and Deputies.—Since your last meeting great events have happened. The appeal which I made to the country to provide for the expenses of the war was so well responded to that the result even exceeds my hopes. Our arms have been victorious in the Baltic as well as in the Black Sea. Two great battles have shed lustre on our flag. Striking testimony

has been afforded of the intimacy of our connexion with England. The Parliament has voted thanks to our Generals and our soldiers. A great empire made young again by the chivalrous sentiments of its Sovereign has detached itself from the Power which for forty years threatened the independence of Europe. The Emperor of Austria has concluded a treaty, defensive now, to be offensive, perhaps, soon, which unites his cause to that of France and England. Thus, gentlemen, the longer the war is prolonged the more does the number of our allies augment, and the more closely are drawn the ties already formed. What ties, indeed, can be more binding than the names of the victories belonging to the two armies, and recalling a glory in common—when the same uneasiness and the same hope agitate the two countries, and when the same intentions animate the two Governments upon every point of the globe? Thus the alliance with England is not the effect of a fleeting interest of a policy of circumstances; it is the union of two powerful nations, associated together to obtain the triumph of a cause in which for more than a century were involved their greatness, the interests of civilization, and at the same time the liberty of Europe. Join with me, then, upon this solemn occasion, in thanking, in the name of France, the Parliament for its cordial and hearty demonstration, and the English army and its worthy chief for their valiant co-operation. Next year, should not peace be then re-established, I hope to have the same thanks to address to Austria and to that Germany whose union and prosperity we desire. I am happy to pay a just tribute of eulogium to the army and the fleet, which, by their devotion and their discipline have, in France as well as in Algeria, in the north as well as in the south, worthily fulfilled my expectations. The army in the East has, up to this time, suffered everything and overcome everything. Epidemics, incendiarism, tempests, and privations—a town unceasingly provisioned, defended by formidable artillery by sea and land—two enemies' armies superior in number—nothing could weaken its courage or arrest its ardour. Every man has nobly done his duty, from the Marshal, who appeared to compel death to wait until he had conquered; down to the soldier and the sailor, whose last cry in expiring was an aspiration for France, an acclamation for the chosen of the country. Let us, then, declare it together, the army and the fleet have merited well of their country. War, it is true, entails cruel sacrifices, nevertheless, everything enjoins me to prosecute it with vigour, and for this purpose I reckon upon your co-operation. The army is now composed of 581,000 soldiers and 113,000 horses; the navy of 62,000 sailors afloat. To keep up this force is indispensable. Therefore, to fill up vacancies occasioned by annual retirements and by the war, I ask you, the same as last year, for a levy of 140,000 men. A law will be presented to you, having for its object to ameliorate, without augmenting, the burden of the Treasury; the position of the soldiers who re-engage will lead to great advantages, to increase the number of old soldiers in the army, and to allow hereafter a diminution of the burdens of the conscription. This law, I hope, will soon receive your approval. I shall ask your authority to raise a fresh national loan. No doubt, this measure will increase the public debt. Nevertheless, let us not forget that by the conversion of the stock the interest of that debt has been reduced 25 millions and a half. My efforts have been directed to the object of limiting the expenses to the receipts, and the ordinary budget which will be presented to you will show that both are balanced. The resources from the loan will be solely applied to meet the exigencies of the war. You will see with pleasure that our revenues have not diminished. Industrial activity is maintained. All the great works of public utility are proceeding, and Providence has been pleased to give us a harvest which satisfies our wants. The Government, nevertheless, does not close its eyes to the inconvenience occasioned by the dearth of provisions, and has taken every means in its power to prevent that inconvenience, and to mitigate it. It has created in many localities new elements of labour. The struggle which is proceeding, circumscribed by moderation and justice, although it may frighten some, gives so little alarm to great interests, that soon the different parts of the globe may expect to enjoy the fruits of peace. Foreigners cannot fail to be struck with the touching spectacle, of a country which, relying upon Divine protection, sustains with energy a war at 600 leagues distance from its frontiers, and which develops with the same ardour its internal riches—a country where war does not prevent agriculture and industry from prospering, or the arts from flourishing, and where the genius of the nation is displayed in everything that can tend to the glory of France.

THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT AND THE PARLIAMENTARY VOTE OF THANKS.

(From last night's Gazette.)

FOREIGN OFFICE, December 26.—The Earl of Clarendon has received from her Majesty's Ambassador at the Court of France a copy of a Note addressed to his Excellency by M. Drouyn de Lhuys, Minister for Foreign Affairs, on the 19th instant, of which the following is a translation:—

M. l'Ambassadeur.—I have had the honour to receive the letter by which your Excellency was good enough to communicate to me the text of the identic resolutions adopted by the two chambers of the British Parliament in their session of the 19th instant.

The thanks voted to our army and to our fleet, as well as to their commanders, could not but deeply affect the government of the Emperor. The thoughts of his Imperial Majesty are directed with unceasing solicitude to the scene of the contest in which the allied armies are engaged; it is, therefore, with the utmost satisfaction that he observes the esteem which the soldiers of the two countries mutually entertain for each other increased by the courage and per-

severance which they display in the service of one and the same cause. The government of the Emperor especially congratulates itself at perceiving in the vote of the parliament an evidence of the intimate union which, connecting together the policy of France and England, blends also in one and the same expression the encomiums to which glorious efforts and toilsome labours so justly entitle the two armies and the two fleets which the two countries have sent to share the same perils and the same fatigues.—Receive, &c.

(Signed) DROUYN DE LHUYS.

Paris, December 19, 1854.

THE WAR.

Despatches from Warsaw of the 26th give an extract from a message of Prince Menschikoff, dated December 16. Up to the evening of that day no event of any importance had occurred before Sebastopol.

The state of the weather was a serious impediment to the works of the allies, and the fire from their batteries, especially from those of the English was feeble.

We have received the following despatch from our correspondent at Vienna:—Tuesday afternoon.—"A Russian ukase ordains that whoever after a battle commits acts of cruelty on the wounded or unresisting shall suffer the punishment of death."

Galignani's Messenger has an article professing to reflect the experience and opinions of one of the most eminent divisional generals of our army in the Crimea, (General Evans):—"The most striking point in the communication with which we have been favoured, is the fact that of the distinguished officers of the British army in the Crimea, who at Varna expressed their disapprobation of the expedition at so late a period of the year, and of the plan which had been formed for its execution, not one now entertains a doubt of complete and not distant success. As regards the privations of the English troops, we are compelled to admit from the authentic accounts that we have received, that they have been great; but it is not true, that there has been a deficiency in the provisions which had been sent out. The rations have been occasionally short, but this arose entirely from the state of the road between Balaklava and the English lines a distance of about seven miles. In consequence of the heavy rains, and the weak state of the horses and mules employed—these animals having for five months been picketed without the slightest covering—many of the carts and waggons stuck by the way, and consequently the soldiers were temporarily short of food. There has been much sickness in both armies, particularly in the English army, from the long encampment under tents which were not proof against the rain; but at the date of our accounts, the general health was improving, and the men in the expectation of receiving warm winter clothing, and having good wooden huts, retained their cheerfulness, and readily made up their minds to endure with patience the few privations which they might have still to undergo. It appears also that some of the newspaper correspondents have exaggerated the number of the Russian army in the Crimea. One of the best generals of the English army declares that he cannot estimate the number of the Russian army outside Sebastopol at more than from 35,000 to 40,000 men. In the communication which we have received allusion is made to the Lancaster guns, respecting which such great expectations had been entertained. On this subject we will quote our informant's words:—"the Lancaster guns are a failure—their power is enormous when the ball strikes the point at which it is aimed; but the gun rarely sends two balls to the same point, and as yet no means have been found to prevent this deviation. In an ordinary gun this defect would not be so important; but the enormous expense of every ball fired from a Lancaster gun renders it impossible to indulge in a system by which only one ball in six reaches the object at which it is discharged."

BUCHARA, Dec. 12.—Yesterday, while rain was falling in torrents, Omar Pacha set out for Schumla and Varna with his staff. His household follows, and it is well understood we shall not see him again for a long while. He goes with 30,000 or 35,000 men to the Crimea, but to what point of the peninsula is unknown.

ODESSA, Dec. 14.—There has been no frost here for several weeks; the roads are almost quite impassable, and for the same reason no conveyance can proceed near Perekop.

By an ukase, of the Czar General Murawieff I. is removed from the command of the corps of grenadiers to that of the special Caucasian army and vice-regent in the Caucasus, with all the powers previously enjoyed by Prince Woronzoff. General Read, hitherto intrin commander in the Caucasus, is appointed aide-de-camp general to the Emperor, member of the Council of State, and commander of the 3rd army corps. General Osten Sacken I. is removed from the command of the 3rd to that of the 4th corps, vice Dannenberg. General Plautin is to command grenadier corps.

The *Universal German Gazette* has the following, under the date of Prague, 20th:—"Although the Austrian artillery now reckons 12 regiments, equal to 12 corps of infantry and a considerable number of field batteries (each regiment having 14 batteries of 8 guns each), 20 new field batteries are being organised, and when to the above is added 20 rocket batteries, it will be seen that Austria has at her disposal a formidable force of artillery. A number of these batteries are arranged to make use of the gun cotton, and great impatience is felt to learn the result of its use."

CORN EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE, Wednesday, 27 Dec., 1854.

We are this week moderately supplied with English Wheat, but the condition of the same being affected by the weather the sale is slow to-day, at a decline of 1s. to 2s. per quarter from last Monday's rates. Oats, Barley, Beans and Peas, without alteration.

THE NONCONFORMIST.

A First-class Newspaper, and organ of advanced Political and Ecclesiastical Opinion.

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During the past year, a gratis Supplement of Eight Pages, containing copious reviews of new books, has been published with the *Nonconformist* every six weeks. Prominent attention has been given to questions affecting religious freedom, which have come before Parliament:—such as Church-rates, Ministers' Money (Ireland), the admission of Dissenters to the Universities, the Colonial Clergy Disabilities Bill, the Irish Regium Donum, Oaths and Affirmations, and the Education of the People. During the session, "Notes from the House of Commons" were published every week. A full analysis of the important Census Returns on Religion and Education was given with comments. Copious reports of all public meetings of a religious and philanthropic nature have been inserted. Special attention has been bestowed upon the war news of the week, so as to make it both full and authentic, and put it in the most attractive shape. Occasional letters from our colonies, especially from Australia, have formed a feature in the columns of the *Nonconformist*. And various social questions, such as the Dwellings of the Poor, Juvenile Crime, the Law of Partnership, the Temperance question, &c., have been repeatedly discussed.

On the same plan the *Nonconformist* will continue to be conducted. While maintaining its character as an organ of advanced ecclesiastical and political principles, and discussing every public question in their light, increased attention will be bestowed upon the other departments of the paper with the view of imparting greater novelty and interest to its contents, of furnishing the freshest and latest news, and of making it, in all respects, an ATTRACTIVE FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Address of the Society of Friends, next week.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1854.

SUMMARY.

CHRISTMAS is always largely suggestive, and more or less "merry" rather from its associations than its accompaniments. The bibliophile who bought Young's "Night Thoughts" with the purchase-money of a plum-pudding, is only an extreme instance of how independent one may be of the conventional modes of celebrating Christmas, and yet make it a holiday—the festival of the affections. But this year has afforded, we fear, a very general illustration of the obverse truth—always sadly abounding in illustrations—how heavy may be the countenances that surround a table loaded with the viands proper to December the 25th. The streets were not

less than usually thronged, in the morning and at night, with diners-out—the railway trains bore away to country réunions their wonted loads—the poor were regaled at the workhouses and elsewhere—the butchers', grocers', and fruiterers', shops had been duly despoiled to furnish out the universal feast;—yet there seemed a shade upon the public face. The weather, as we have elsewhere remarked, may have contributed to the general depression; but it was, we suspect, chiefly by its suggestiveness of still worse weather elsewhere. Christmas at home was deprived of all its mirth, and sobered in its happiness, by the thought of Christmas in the Crimea.

It was only just that it should be so. We had no right to think that a subscription to the Patriotic Fund, and a possible contribution to the boxes making up for the camp, acquitted us of further care for the brave fellows whose Christmas-day might be a repetition of Inkermann. Still less could we forget the many households in which a vacant place at the Christmas board would tell of absent father, son, or brother, in a soldier's grave, or in all a soldier's peril and hardship. But it does not follow that the *Times* was right in uttering that tremendous blast of distress and complaint, which on Saturday threw half England into a rage of grief, anxiety, and indignation. The siege suspended—all hope of carrying Sebastopol by assault indefinitely retarded—the army perishing bit by bit—the reinforcements sickening in a few days, and the veterans desponding, indifferent, and disgusted—the camp divided from its supplies by a nearly impassable bog—the Commander-in-chief shut up in his house of stone, while the troops are but beginning to build themselves huts of the brushwood and the drift—"misrule" dominant, and disasters accumulating to the catastrophe;—such was the appalling picture drawn by the *Times* just one day too late for Parliamentary interference, and with no more practical pendant than the appointment of a civil commissioner—"say Sir Charles Trevelyan"—with power to set up a dictatorship at Constantinople.

Of course, such an agitating appeal as this to the interests and sensibilities of the country could not be suffered to pass unchallenged by the Ministerial press—a rather shifting quantity, by-the-by; seeing that the *Times* has but just gone into opposition. Accordingly, on Monday, the *Daily News*, *Morning Chronicle*, and *Globe*, addressed themselves to the task of reinspiring confidence in Lord Raglan. In this they have achieved considerable success,—partly by explanation of circumstances strongly indicative of lethargic inactivity; partly by allusions to the "ignorant impatience" excited by Lord Raglan's not more taciturn chief, in the first campaigns of the Peninsular war; and partly by discrediting the evidence on which the *Times* had spoken. That journal, however, yesterday returned to the charge, driving home its heavy array of allegations and insinuations, with the outspoken, emphatic dictum—"It is HEAD, HEAD, HEAD, that is wanted, as well as the limbs of the rude helpless soldier." Certainly, the correspondence published on the same day, in all the journals, seems to sustain the damning censure couched beneath this daring truism. The gentlemen of the press, one and all, describe the condition of things as absolutely and gratuitously miserable. It is alleged, on the other hand, that these gentlemen, and the officers with whom they associate, are too sensitive to hardship and disorder fairly to observe or report; and many quotations from *soldiers'* letters are given, with the view of showing that they neither suffer nor complain. Every one will be glad to believe, on the testimony of these admirable men, that the commander-in-chief is not wanting in personal kindness, or in official consideration. But that there is somewhere a vast amount of carelessness, stupidity, and all the vices of officialism,—an amount sufficient to destroy any army but ours,—is evident from the heavy rate of mortality in a climate that has proved hitherto not unkind; the destitute condition of the troops; the accumulation of sick in the harbour; and lastly, but not least conclusively, the appointment of a commission to investigate the mismanagement at Balaklava.

The latest aspect of affairs would appear to be this:—A change of weather on the 6th,—a change from November rains to May sunshine,—permitting the resumption of operations, new batteries—including three thirteen-inch mortars—were set up, and the fire was expected to re-open. The retreat of the Russians from the position in Balaklava they had occupied since the 26th of October, opened a prospect of recovering the principal road from the harbour to the English right. Up to the 18th, however,—according to Prince Menschikoff,—nothing had occurred. It was again surmised that the resolution had been taken to attempt an assault.

The speech of the Emperor of the French, on the re-opening of the Chambers, will be read with singular interest throughout Europe, inasmuch as it is the manifesto of an absolute ruler to a people whose passions make them his subjects, and would make them terrible foes. It will be seen that he

declares, in phrases worthy of the first Napoleon, the sincerity of his alliance with England, the supremacy of his influence over Austria, his hope of "obtaining the assistance" of Germany whenever it may be needed, the plenitude of his resources, and his confidence in the moderation and justice of his cause.

Of Prussia, the Emperor is significantly silent. It is already understood that the mission of M. Von Usedom, from the Court of Berlin to that of St. James's, and of M. Manteuffel to Vienna, will be of no more immediate practical utility than that of Count Zichy to St. Petersburg. The attempt of Prussia to interpret Russia's acceptance of the four points in a sense satisfactory to the Western Powers, is said to have been stopped by a simultaneous declaration from Lord Clarendon and M. Drouyn De L'Huys, in which Austria concurs. There remains, then, only the acceptance or rejection by the Czar of the terms thus commended to him by a triple league—"defensive, to-day; offensive, perhaps, tomorrow." That those terms will be rejected is certain. What, then, will Austria do—and what Prussia? become questions of the highest exigency; and to which we see no answer possible to the statesmen who perversely identify governments with nations.

Except that Mr. Peto has been involved by his patriotic readiness to supply, without profit, an important deficiency in the Crimean expedition, in the unpleasant alternative of liability to enormous fines or the renunciation of his seat in Parliament, and has preferred the former,—there is really no domestic events of any political character. In the City of London we have, however, one or two pleasing indications that the long delayed reform is at the door. That miserable extortion and obstruction,—the toll on non-freeholders' carts,—has been abolished by an act of the corporation; a motion for co-operation with the Government in effecting the great municipal improvement, has been postponed only that it may be the more effectual; and Mr. Simon, the City Officer of Health, has presented another of those admirable reports which carry persuasion to every faculty of the mind. It was owing to the exertion of that gentleman,—if to any human agency at all,—that the City cases of cholera were 71 per cent. less in 1854 than in 1849. He shows, with convincing plainness, how he wrought to this beneficent end, and how others may work as well. There could not be a better fact with which to close the history of this last week of the year. Eighteen-fifty-four, has on its hands the loss of many more lives than have perished by the sword—of the tens of thousands whom cholera slew, at home and abroad, as the wolf slays the sheep in the fold. The coming year may fail to restore Peace, even though we pray for it; but it may bring deliverance from an enemy even more destructive, if less terrible, than war—even from the enemy at whose bidding the years, like the horrid idol of heathendom, devour their own offspring.

NOTES FROM THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE discussion on the Foreigners' Enlistment Bill, carried through its second reading by a majority of 39, between one and two o'clock on Wednesday morning, was renewed at noon, on the motion for going into committee. We believe that as the "ayes" were passing through the division lobby, Lord John Russell mounted a bench, and, after informing his supporters that he had reason to apprehend a strong muster of the Opposition to obstruct the further progress of the bill, he begged them to come down in force to prevent the mischief. Hence, the day sitting of Wednesday was more numerously attended than usual. Much of the speaking was of an apologetic character—an outpouring of dissatisfaction with the bill by members who had previously voted for it. The debate continued till the clock adjourned it. The notable speakers of the day were Mr. Drummond and Mr. Whiteside. The hon. member for West Surrey always commands attention. He is in every respect a remarkable man. Nobody doubts his religious fervour, but he never obtrudes his peculiar sentiments upon Parliament, nor interlards his speech with pious phrases. Probably, no man hates cant with more intensity than he. His scholarship is at once profound and elegant, and his stores of information seemingly illimitable. But neither is he a pedant. His speeches are those of an English gentleman of rather grotesque individuality, redeemed from any approach to tiresomeness by continuous coruscations of wit. It is wonderful what a blending together there is in the compass of a few sentences from his tongue, of strong, manly, common-sense facetiously uttered, and of outrageous sentiments and puerile oddities of judgment. He invariably gives you something worth remembering, and generally something which, for his sake, you wish you could forget. It was curious to observe how, on this occasion, he laboured to bring up to the surface, without naming it, a fact or a scandal which is current in the House, as accounting for the excessive anxiety of Ministers to get

this Bill—how he kept pointing his finger at it, but was restrained by decorum from designating it outright. His voice is weak and thin—his manner dry and solemn—but the hush of the House whilst he speaks gives him the best chance of being heard—and the gravity of his manner sets off to the greatest advantage the flashes of his humour. Mr. Whiteside is, in almost all respects, the antipodes of Mr. Drummond. He, too, is a very able man—learned in his profession—eloquent in speech—and decided in his religious views. In person he is tall, athletic, and handsome. He has a full-toned voice, and he makes full use of it. His elocution is boisterous, and without grace. He, like Mr. Drummond, utters unpalatable truths without shrinking—but he never oils them to speed their passage home. On the contrary, there is a nameless somewhat in his composition, which never fails to embitter what he touches. His is not “a polished shaft,” but a ragged bludgeon—and whatever he hits he is sure to mangle. He spoke at considerable length on Wednesday—another feature of contrast to Mr. Drummond, who is always short—and certainly if he did but little to throw over the discussion, an air of freshness, he did still less to soften its asperity.

On Thursday, after a speech or two from members who had not yet spoken, Mr. Disraeli allowed the bill to go into committee, through which it rapidly passed, and on Friday, discussion was renewed on the motion for the third reading. Early in the evening Mr. Cobden rose, and spoke for an hour and ten minutes. He succeeded in giving the debate a new and more general turn. His object was to show that we may now enter upon negotiations for peace, the original object of the war having been accomplished, and such securities obtained for the future, as are satisfactory to the Governments most interested in demanding them. The hon. member pursued his argument in a conciliatory strain—was listened to throughout with marked attention—and succeeded in performing an unpopular but patriotic duty, without exciting against himself or his position any increase of angry feeling. The effect produced was evident in the more moderate tone assumed by Lord John Russell at a later period of the night—and in his disingenuous attempt to neutralise Mr. Cobden's rebuke of Lord Palmerston for his assertion of the rapid progress of the Turks in civilisation, by pointing to the activity of the Greeks who dwell in Turkey. It was certainly a pitiful evasion—but it did not serve Lord John's purpose, for it called up Mr. Bright, whom both sides of the House desired to hear. And he was heard—heard, moreover, by the majority with respect. Of course, there were ministerial *claqueurs* to interrupt him—but he soon silenced them. Whether he logically maintained his position, our readers can judge as well as we—but that he has lost none of his standing in the House of Commons—that he has rather gained than lost in moral power by his manly and courageous maintenance of anti-warlike sentiments—we have no hesitation in averring our confident belief. The division showed a smaller number of voters, but in very nearly the same proportion as before. The bill was passed.

Both Houses met for a short time on Saturday, for the purpose of hearing the Royal assent given to the Militia and Foreigners' Enlistment Bills, and were then adjourned to the 23rd of January.

EIGHTEEN FIFTY-FOUR.

A MEMORABLE year! It is with the years as with us whose lives they measure—the great majority are born to be forgot. One year is as much like other years, as one man is like his fellow. Over both hangs a monotony that is fatal to recollection. How few men have we seen whose countenances left upon our memory an image—whose character we could not describe with a phrase that would do for most other characters! Only here and there is one with lineaments so marked, with attributes so well defined, as to serve for more than the poor purpose of identification. In the lives of how few men occur events which would bear the telling, but for our insatiate sympathy with one another's doings. And so with the years, whose complexion is but that of the multitudinous incidents transacted within their compass. Only those in which have happened something abrupt, imposing, or influential, have a chance of being remembered. Only two or three in a generation survive to be familiar in the mouths of its successor. We speak of 1793, and of 1815,—of '31 and of '46,—but the intervening years are, in the common memory, either blanks or blurred and blotted records.

But not this generation—nor perhaps any that is to follow—can forget 1854. Its public transactions will commend it to the historian—their close connexion with private experiences, will preserve it from forgetfulness by the multitude who neither write nor read history. We have heard old people reckon the era of the French Revolution by their own age at the time of its occurrence; and we have heard younger people calculate their own nativity by their recollections of Waterloo and the

Reform Bill. So, while the politician remembers the year that is yet expiring as the first of a struggle long foreseen, and carefully, almost superstitiously avoided, but only made thereby the more imminent; a struggle that united in arms the two rival nations of the West, against a power whose friendship both had courted; a struggle that revealed unexpected capabilities, dispelled firmly-seated illusions, and unsettled the relations of all the European states,—while for these lofty reasons 1854 is largely inscribed in the biographies of nations, in household chronicles it will be named as the year in which soldier sons and brothers for the first time went to the wars and veterans renewed the toils of their youth. Boys who, from their fathers' arms, saw the Guards march out of London in the cold grey dawn of a winter morning, not twelve months ago, and may live to talk of that impressive incident to their own or their children's children—girls who, working to-day on mittens and comforters for our frost-bitten troops, may grow old enough to tell of it to their grandchildren—will be in no danger of forgetting 1854.

An unhappy year! unhappy as memorable. Is it not usually so? Does not the proverb say, “Blessed are the people whose annals are uninteresting?” Certainly, whether or not it be a reproach, it is the years of disaster that are best remembered. Though it be true that, to the eyes of private retrospection, the years of enjoyment are generally as a green expanse, and those of suffering but as widely separated spots of barrenness or blight,—it is also true that the latter are usually elevated and conspicuous, the first to catch our sight as we glance backwards. And so it will be that this 1854 is remembered chiefly by reason of its afflictions. It is not war alone that has made it a time of grief. Pestilence has destroyed at home more than the sword has destroyed abroad. In the populous city and by the pleasant shore,—in the place where men stand so thick that one might hope to hide from death, and in places so lonely that thither, it might be hoped, he would not follow,—death has sought out and taken his victims. And to these causes of sorrow, a third has been added. Death has pinched with want multitudes who had begun to think the wolf forever driven from the door. Though from fields of superabundance the barns were filled to overflowing, there has not been enough for all. The necessities of other nations have made us feel the debt we owe them for past supplies. Trade, affrighted and disturbed, has failed to bring us the produce of acres reliable as our own. Thus, in the presence of amazing plenty there has been a penury of bread. Some have been compelled to abandon habits of indulgence that had grown up in our brief prosperity—others, have imperceptibly slipped back to the destitution from which they were emerging. In part from these latter causes, but far more from the first named,—from the household desolation which war inflicts, even three thousand miles away; striking, at the same moment, to the heart of the soldier on the battlefield and of his mother in her distant home—from the gaps which the wasting sickness of the campaign, and the fierce destruction of the fight, have made in circles before perfect in affection—from the ten thousand names of killed and wounded,—1854 is assured of long remembrance.

And yet, a year of pride and hope! How loftily we bear our sorrows,—how bright is the future we see through our tears! Perhaps there is just now not a suffering heart in England, that does not feel comforted by a sentiment it would hardly like to define. The widow or the orphan, looking up at the marble tablet which records the services and fate of the lost husband or father, is conscious of a consoling emotion that others must be left to call the pride of military heroism; for surely that would seem a little thing to fill the aching void left by the destruction of a worshipped image. But it is not only that. The admiration we all have of our soldiers is not the admiration merely of animal courage. It is the admiration of courage conjoined with self-control, with compassion for the suffering, with a rude tenderness to the helpless, with a patient endurance of hardship, with a cheerful obedience to orders that involve even self-devotion. The pride we all have just now in the soldier, in common with his kinsfolk, is a pride that our country can still produce such fine specimens of manhood—men in whom the spirit of enterprise, of romance, of patriotism, or whatever the motive be, is capable of working out such splendid results. And it is not of the soldier alone that we are proud. His doctor and his nurse share with him our admiration. Even in the anxiety that now everywhere prevails to rescue the army from its perils and privations—in the very intention (however mistaken), with which that army was sent out—in the unanimous readiness of the nation to spend more money and shed yet more of its blood, rather than leave that intention unfulfilled, we see something that mitigates the evils of the war, incalculable though they be. And for the future—dark as it still is, to the eye of policy—vainly as we strive to find a practicable way out of the monstrous difficulty into which we have

thrust ourselves—to the eye of hope, there is visible an issue to which the hand of Providence may conduct us. The war was undertaken for the counteraction of a great evil,—unwisely undertaken, we admit, because ill-adapted; but the evil is a real and gigantic one—nothing less than the dominance of military despotism, personified in Russia, over the half of Europe. We should perhaps have been wiser to fight that dominant power by the force of ideas—but we chose to do so by arms. May it not be the design of Providence, overruling once more the passions of men to highest purposes, so to discomfit Russia by these means, so to humble her pride and baffle her policy, that the object shall have been accomplished, though at an unnecessary and frightful cost? So would we believe—and in that faith, we bid farewell to eighteen fifty-four. It came to us with an uplifted scourge in its hand. The scourge has fallen, severely, indeed. But we will not curse the hand that smote,—since by another hand may come healing for our maladies as well as for our stripes.

THE UNPATRIOTIC VOTE.

THE members of the House of Commons sitting on the right side of Mr. Speaker's chair, who voted against the Foreigners' Enlistment Bill, have got themselves into a pretty scrape. They have been assailed by a trio of weeklies, representative of the perfection of wisdom, virtue, and moderation—the *Spectator*, the *Patriot*, and the *Dispatch*. We know not which is most intolerant of the three—but, as usual, the *Patriot* is most abusive. “Traitors” is scarcely too hard a term for that pink of religious journalism to hurl at gentlemen who dared to vote against the Government on that occasion. Scolding has generally been considered a habit of weakness associated with age—the greatest adepts in the practice of it are invariably old women.

What is the offence of these gentlemen? That they declined to surrender, at the bidding of Ministers, their independence as members of Parliament, and dared to give effect to their judgments by their votes. Whether their convictions were well-founded or erroneous—whether they had good reasons for what they did, or only thought they had—is a proper question for their constituents. But unless Parliament is doomed to abdicate its functions during the war, and devolve its responsibilities upon the Executive, we must aver our belief that it is on the whole quite as well that members should vote as they think, as that they should vote as they are commanded. In the last case, as in the first, they may sometimes vote wrong—but it is always more agreeable to be at peace with one's own conscience. It would appear as if there are some people who have no notion of self-respect.

Time will show whether these gentlemen were right or wrong—and, for ourselves, we are willing to abide the verdict of time in this matter. Even, in relation to the immediate exigencies of the war, we doubt the practical wisdom of the measure. If, as Mr. Sydney Herbert intimated, the hopes of Government mainly rest upon being able to intercept German emigrants on their way through this country to a foreign home, we fancy they will reap nothing better than disappointment. If, on the contrary, this is merely a blind put forward to veil their real purpose, they have no right to complain of distrust and suspicion. They laid a case before Parliament—and they preferred to show how the remedy they proposed would meet that case. We want older men for the army, said they, and we cannot get them fast enough—give us power to enlist foreigners, and—German emigrants will supply us with just the material that we want. Now this appeared to many a preposterous and absurd project—and until we see it realised, we shall believe it to be so.

The real difficulty of Ministers lies in the system which they have neither the will nor the courage to break up. In this country, enlistment in the army puts a man on the road to nowhere, but to drill and idleness in time of peace, and to privation and death in time of war. Men cannot rise from the ranks, because commissions are reserved exclusively for gentlemen, or, in other words, men of some station. If, instead of disposing of commissions by purchase, a certain proportion of them were given as the reward of good conduct, or if, in half the regiments of the line, the men had the privilege of electing their own officers—if, in short, the army were managed for national instead of class purposes—the service would not be so unpopular as it is. If the Government is really so closely pinched for men, might they not have proposed a move in this direction, and would not the effect of it have been to encourage enlistment at home, and to infuse fresh spirit into our troops abroad? But no! Their patriotism dictates no such sacrifice—and to obviate the necessity for it they ask permission to employ foreign troops.

We do not believe in granting the present Government, nor, indeed, any other Government, *carte blanche*. They may be individually estima-

ble and trustworthy, but, as a body, they will never, except when driven to it by necessity, assail that compact and inert mass of officialism to which must be ascribed most of the omissions and blunders which have characterised the opening campaign in this war. Indiscriminate confidence will but lead to enormous jobbing. The obstinate pendency of subordinate placemen will continue to thwart the best designs of Cabinet councils—and the clumsiest expedients will have to be paid for at an enormous cost. If history is anything better than an old almanac, it will teach us that nothing can be more unpatriotic in the House of Commons, than to abdicate its functions at the beck of a War Ministry. Hitherto, Parliament has refused nothing which the Queen's advisers have demanded. It is not strange, therefore, that when they steal a march upon Parliament, propose measures on a sudden, leave no time for consideration, and threaten retirement if their behests are not complied with, that they should meet with opposition even in quarters where they have commonly reckoned on support.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.

The *Messiah* was performed at St. Martin's Hall, on Wednesday last, under the direction of Mr. Hullah, before a very crowded and enthusiastic auditory. There was everything on the occasion to gratify the ear, and satisfy the taste, even of the most critical. Mr. Hullah's choral bands will not vie with those of Exeter Hall in point of numbers and body of sound, but are sufficient for every effect. His pupils sang with a force and compactness which gave expression to Handel's sublime choruses. Mr. Hullah's instrumentalists are very select, and we have never heard the accompaniments, including those added by Mozart, more delicately and beautifully played. The solos were taken by Mr. and Mrs. Sims Reeves, Miss Palmer, Miss Blenden, and Mr. Thomas. The last three were debutantes, and each gave indications of promise. Miss Palmer and Mr. Thomas have voices of a rich quality, and their tasteful and effective singing created a very favourable impression. The execution of the choruses was in general forcible, correct, and impressive. With such singers, too, as Mr. Sims Reeves, whose singing in the *Messiah* is unsurpassed by any tenor, and Mrs. Sims Reeves (lately Miss Lucombe) one of our most careful and accomplished vocalists, the principal tenor and soprano parts, left nothing to be desired. Not the least attentive and enthusiastic amongst the audience, were those who paid the moderate sum of 1s. for admission to the area. On the 17th of January, a new oratorio, called "The Nativity"—the work of Mrs. Mounsey Bartholomew—is to be produced at St. Martin's Hall.

A considerable number of newly-invented iron bedsteads, with sucking centres, for the sick and wounded, were yesterday delivered at the Tower-wharf, for conveyance to the Crimea: a number of newly-invented water beds, which will save a vast amount of suffering to the wounded, are also ordered out to the East.

Government having agreed to the transmission of whisky duty free to England from Scotland, donations of that spirit, rum, or ale, would be of the greatest service to the soldiers in the Crimea. A steamer in the Thames is ready to receive them, if sent to Messrs. Crawford and Easton, Gordon street, on or before Saturday next.

A deputation of tanners and other manufacturers carrying on business in Bermondsey and the neighbourhood, introduced by Mr. Apsley Pellatt, M.P., and Mr. William Williams, M.P., had an interview with Viscount Palmerston yesterday, at the Home-office, to draw his lordship's attention to the severity of the prosecutions against them under the Smoke and Nuisances Abatement Act of 1853.

1,291 persons—viz., 639 males and 652 females—were recorded in the London registers of deaths in the week that ended last Saturday. This is nearly the same number as was returned in each of the two previous weeks. In the ten weeks corresponding to last week of the years 1844—53 the average number of deaths was 1,249, which, if a correction is made for increase of population, becomes 1,374. The mortality of last week is therefore less than the estimated amount; but, as the latter is increased by the influenza which prevailed in 1847, the present return is less favourable as regards the public health than the comparison appears to indicate. Last week the births of 741 boys and 733 girls, in all 1,474 children, were registered in London. In the nine corresponding weeks of the years 1845-53 the average number was 1,429.

Foreign and Colonial News.

FRANCE.

The popish business of the Immaculate Conception is likely forthwith to excite something more than a speculative interest in France. The bull promulgating the new dogma has arrived at the residence of the Pope's Nuncio in Paris; but, by a positive article of Napoleon's Concordat, no popish bull can be promulgated in France without the approbation of the Council of State. It is rumoured that a serious opposition (of course favoured by the Government, if it be indeed serious) is preparing in this learned but subservient body. M. de Cormenin, it is said, will pronounce an elaborate oration against granting the *viva*. In support of the heretical opposition, a pamphlet, by M. Lambert, a judge of the Court of Cassation, is announced as forthcoming.

The *Univers* seriously calls upon Government to suppress the *Siecle* and the *Presse* in the interests of public order. The immediate cause of this charitable proceeding on the part of the Jesuits' organ is that these journals have ventured to expose the pretended miracles of La Salsette and other places, and to impugn the doctrine of the *Univers* that anything is a miracle which any Catholic bishop may certify to be such. The *Gazette de France*, although a staunch legitimist and Catholic journal, disclaims the position that the Roman Catholic religion requires to be placed under the protection of the Board of Censure, and expresses disgust at the attempt of one journal to get the better of another by an appeal to material force.

It is said that the budget which has been laid before the Council of State shows a deficit of from 80,000,000 to 87,000,000 of francs. This is not extraordinary when we consider the expenditure of the war. It is proposed to be made up by re-imposing on real property the 17 centimes which had been taken off at the time of the proclamation of the Empire, and which, it is expected, will produce about 20,000,000f. The remainder will be provided by means of a loan. A grant of 5,000,000f. for the working classes, decreed in the *Moniteur*, is the gilding of the pill.

A new postal treaty has been entered into with England, the effect of which will be the reduction of the postage upon pre-paid letters weighing not more than one quarter of an ounce, to 4d. instead of 8d. or 10d., as heretofore. This will carry the letter from any part of the United Kingdom, to any part of France or Algeria. If the postage is unpaid, the charge will be double. The new treaty will come into operation on the 1st of January.

PRUSSIA.

The first Chamber of the States of Prussia has adopted, by a majority of eighty-nine to thirteen, a proposition made by Count Istemplitz for the suppression of all the articles of the constitution which guarantee to citizens the free disposal of their property, and also of those which abolish seigniorial rights. This is, perhaps, the most audacious blow yet aimed at the Prussian constitution.

The Minister of the Interior has also laid before the Chambers a bill for regulating the titles of the two bodies, and the privileges of the newly constituted upper house. The First Chamber is to be called in future the House of Lords, the Second Chamber the House of Deputies. The joint names for both collectively is to be "General Diet." The House of Lords can come to no decision, unless sixty of its members are present.

SPAIN.

On the 19th inst., M. Luzuriaga, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, read the programme of the Cabinet to the Spanish Cortes. Its substance is as follows:—"Sovereign liberty of the Cortes to decree the basis of the constitution; a constitutional throne, with all the powers necessary to and inherent in this institution; royal sanction for the ordinary laws; individual safety, with no other limit save that which is required for the safety of the public; right of petition; religious unity in whatever may have an interior character, without trespassing on the respect due to other forms of belief; strong parliamentary power, in order that the regal power may not be destroyed; organisation of parliament in both houses; the right of refusing taxes not voted by the Cortes; ministerial responsibility; national guard; enlightened decentralization; peace and friendship with all nations, whatever their forms of government may be; assimilation of the colonies to the peninsula; general system of railways; civil equality for obtaining public situations; special instruction in the arts and sciences, in order to destroy the mania of getting into public offices; free press, with trial by jury."

Marshal Espartero spoke a few words, and demanded of the Chambers a compact majority and a good constitution. He said that if any one should attempt to make the nation retrograde, he would put himself at the head of the National Guard and army in order to protect the laws.

ITALY.

The great solemnities at Rome attending the promulgation of the bull concerning "the Immaculate Conception" took place on the 8th instant, and full details are before us. The Cardinal Vicar published a notification on the 4th, to enlighten the minds of the Romans on the subject, informing them that the Church, by a venerable and august decree, was about "to point a precious gem which already ornamented the diadem of Mary," and to confirm by its "infallible oracle," as a dogma of faith, "the ancient, universal, and most pious belief in the immaculate conception of the Virgin Mary;" to doubt of, or to speak against which, would consequently, in future, render any one so acting liable to be treated as a heretic, and thrust out of the Catholic fold. For five days preceding the ceremony, by express command of his Holiness, the

relics of the holy face, the lance, the cross, the inscription of the cross, the cradle of our Saviour, and the chains of St. Peter, were exhibited to the veneration of the faithful, with due advantages of indulgences attached; and triduos and fasts were prepared for the great event. On the morning of the 8th, a crowd assembled in St. Peter's, so great that its "unfillable vastness" never appeared so full before. From the halls of the Vatican came into the church a procession of fifty-five cardinals, forty-three archbishops, one patriarch, and one hundred and three bishops; followed by the Pope on foot and uncrowned. The bull was promulgated by the Pope during high mass; and so affected was the Holy Father at some passages, that he stopped to dry his tears with a handkerchief. High mass being over, led by the grand procession of dignitaries, the Pope entered the Cardinal's Chapel, and mounting a crimson platform, performed the ceremony of crowning the Madonna. In the evening, the cupola of St. Peter's, and the facades of most of the other churches, as well as public buildings and private residences, were abundantly illuminated; and Cardinal Wiseman wound up the proceedings by delivering an oration on the Immaculate Conception before the Arcadian Academicians, at a solemn meeting of that body, in the great hall of the Capitol.

The Intendant of Genoa, M. Buffa, has resigned, in consequence of the Government measure for the suppression of convents. He had held the post for three years, and was very popular in Genoa. Ministers made great efforts to change his resolutions, but in vain. The Church party are moving heaven and earth to throw odium upon the Government in regard to this measure, and it is thought probable that to lull the storm it will be found necessary to modify the bill by admitting sweeping exceptions to its operation.

A curious quarrel has broken out between the Neapolitan Government and the Jesuits in that kingdom. The latter had been in the habit of teaching that the Pope was superior to all the other sovereigns of the earth, and the former has, for some unexplained reason, thought proper to regard this not very novel doctrine as highly revolutionary. M. Mazza, the Director of Police, sent for Padre Giuseppe, the chief of the Jesuits, and told him that they must discontinue this practice, and should recollect that in 1848 they were sent out of the country in carriages; "but if these things continue," said the worthy Minister, "the Government will kick you out of the kingdom." "Noi vi cacceremo a calci" were the precise words. The reverend father, much distressed at the result of his interview, hastened back to his convent, and lost no time in compiling a protest, which was published at Naples a day or two after.

INDIA.

An overland mail with dates from Bombay, to the 20th of Nov., is telegraphed from Trieste.

Dost Mahomed had opened a friendly correspondence with the Governor General. A treaty had been made with the Khan of Kelat for the protection of our frontier from Kurrahee to Candahar. Nepal was increasing her military forces.

The Burman envoy from Ava was still expected at Calcutta. The price of opium at Calcutta had begun to rise. Capital abounded, and was almost redundant. At Bombay trade was bad.

In the north of China the Imperialists had gained some advantages over the insurgents, and expected shortly to recover Shanghai. The sales of tea at Canton were insignificant; at Shanghai the article was a little lower. A large business has been done in silks. Exchange at Canton, 4s. 8d.

AMERICA.

The friends of free-trade in Europe must prepare themselves for another protective tariff in the United States. In less than an hour after the House of Representatives was called to order, and before the message of the President was received, a motion to introduce a bill for reducing duties on railroad iron was voted down *instantly*, two to one—no debate whatever being allowed. A member for New York, however, proposed, the first day of the session, to abolish all duties upon foreign coal, and the proposal met with favour.

Another proof of the power of the Know-Nothings in Congress is, that in the first sitting notices were given of bills to modify or utterly annul all the naturalisation laws, requiring the foreigner to live on American soil twenty years before he has the privilege of voting; to prohibit the enlistment of persons of foreign birth in our army; and to prevent all emigration to the country of foreign paupers and convicts. It is alleged that more than one-half of the members of Congress were become members of the great secret society, while it is confidently believed that an overwhelming majority of the next Congress will be out-and-out Know-Nothings.

Great complaint was made that the President had withheld information on some very important subjects in his message. The House of Representatives have carried a motion to inquire into the doing of the Ostend conference of the American ministers.

The Sandwich Island Treaty of Annexation with the States, has been signed by the King and nobles.

In Mexico, Santa Anna has defeated Mararez and suppressed the rebellion.

A large dry-goods house at Boston is reported to have failed, and the liabilities to be about two million dollars.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The Belgian Senate has voted the literary convention with England, and the bill allowing still of the free admission of foreign coal.

The Emperor Napoleon has, out of his own privy purse, doubled the pension of 20,000f. already granted to the widow of Marshal St. Arnaud.

The Emperor has also given 40,000f. to make a promenade by the seaside at Biarritz, the water-

ing place where the Empress stayed so long last season.

The Paris bakers have determined to give 275,000 kilogrammes (about 550,000 lbs.) of best bread to the poor, instead of the Christmas boxes usually given to their customers.

The Cardinal of Bordeaux has organised a collection of Bordeaux wine for convalescent soldiers; he has himself contributed six hundred bottles of fine old wine.

The Chevalier Bunsen, says the *Gazette de l'Academie* of St. Petersburg, continues to reside in retirement at Heidelberg, and has just sent to a publisher at Berlin an historical work, the fruit of his regained leisure.

Queen Isabelle II. (says the Madrid correspondent of *La Presse*) presents the Pope with a magnificent tiara worth 200,000*fr.*, in honour of his decision respecting the Immaculate Conception. The tiara is now exposed to public view at Madrid.

Twelve of the principal brewers of Lille have just been tried by the Tribunal of Correctional Police of that town for having, in September last, formed a coalition for the purpose of increasing the price of beer from 50 centimes to 60 centimes the double quart. The tribunal sentenced the accused to fines of 250 francs 2000 francs to each and costs.

The *Univers* has raked up a prophecy a hundred years old, that the dogma of the Immaculate Conception would be proclaimed in a week without a Friday. The 8th of December, on which day Rome was "drunk with joy," was a Friday, according to the calendar; but the Pope, to celebrate the occasion in a manner altogether extraordinary, granted a dispensation from the fast usually observed on that day. Thus the prophecy was fulfilled: in a Catholic point of view there was no Friday in that week.

The Court of Assize at Munich was lately occupied with the trial of a band of robbers, who had for some time back been committing at great number of robberies and several murders. They inhabited a vast cavern in the Schillinger Forest, the entrance to which was concealed by old trunks of trees. They had their stables and store-houses, all underground; and at the end of a long corridor there was even found a sort of slaughter-house, where they killed the animals which they required for food. The court condemned five of the accused to death, and the others either to imprisonment with hard labour or to simple imprisonment.

MARYLEBONE ELECTION.

The following is the close of the poll as officially announced on Wednesday:—

Lord Ebrington	6,919
Mr. Jacob Bell	4,166

Majority	2,753
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Both gentlemen spoke at the declaration of the poll, and Mr. Bell's good humour under his defeat was especially noticed. Mr. Bell told the constituency that he was disappointed but not ashamed, and should keep his poll-books and cards for another election. He attributed his defeat to a considerable extent to his creed, reminded his auditory that he had never declared himself a man of war, and consoled himself with the reflection that he would still represent Marylebone in its local parliament.

Lord Ebrington has since issued an address to the electors, in which he says—"I thank you most sincerely for the triumphant majority by which you have returned me to Parliament. I have had the satisfaction of being supported on this occasion by electors of all classes and creeds, and of all shades of political opinions, all combining as Englishmen to uphold one who has always shown himself consistent as a politician, and independent as a candidate, and who, above all, has always maintained purity of election."

The following is a copy of the noble lord's reply to the letter containing several ecclesiastical questions inserted in our last number.

Grosvenor-square, December 18, 1854.

SIR,—I have been too much occupied, I regret to say, till now to answer your letter. I hasten to do so now.

1. I signed a petition, while an undergraduate at Cambridge, for the admission of Dissenters into the Universities, and have always supported that measure ever since.

2. I am, as at present advised, for exempting Dissenters from any payment of Church-rates; but, the Government having promised to bring in a bill on the subject, I should be willing to give any measure a fair consideration which offered any reasonable prospect of settling such a harassing and discord-engendering question.

3. I am in favour of the Grant to Maynooth while the Church of Ireland remains on its present footing.

4. I am very desirous of seeing the most objectionable course taken by the Bishop of Exeter, and possibly some other bishops, with regard to burying-grounds, checked by legislative interference.

I remain, Sir, in haste, your obedient servant,
Mr. A. Cockshaw. EBRINGTON.

VACANCY IN THE REPRESENTATION OF NORWICH.

Much surprise and regret were excited in Norwich on Wednesday last by the appearance of an address from Mr. Peto, resigning his seat for that city, in consequence of having accepted the contract for the construction of the railway from Balaklava to the trenches in front of Sebastopol. After stating that the firm, in devoting to the contract their best energies, are acting simply as agents on behalf of the Government, and without the slightest pecuniary profit or benefit to themselves, the Address proceeds thus:—"In carrying out this arrangement, and during its continuance, I find that, by a strict interpretation of the Act which incapacitates Members of Parliament from being concerned in

any contract or commission on behalf of the Government, I may have brought myself within the operation of its clauses, although I have not in any way infringed upon the true spirit or meaning of that law. If I absented myself from the House, I should avoid any legal inconvenience; but I feel that while such important questions are under consideration, I should be wanting in duty to you by such a course, and I, therefore, feel no hesitation in returning to you the trust you have reposed in me; and this becomes the more imperative from the indefinite time in which I shall be engaged in carrying out those duties I have voluntarily undertaken."

The next day, an address was issued by Sir Samuel Bignold, the late Mayor, a Conservative. As if conscious of slender claims to the honour he seeks, Sir Samuel promises the electors, should he be the object of their choice, to yield the post of representation at any future time to Mr. Peto! At a meeting of the Liberal party, Sir W. Foster introduced Sir Edward Buxton. Mr. Tillett, as the leader of the Radical section, admitted that the right of nomination lay with the Whigs; but warned them that a politician of such very moderate views as Sir Edward, could not be carried. This appeared to be the prevalent feeling. Sir Edward consequently issued no address, and Mr. Anthony Hammond is nominated in his place.

On Friday a new writ was ordered to be issued for the city of Norwich, in the room of Mr. S. M. Peto, who has accepted the Stewardship of the Chiltern Hundreds.

Court, Personal, and Official News.

The Court is keeping Christmas at Windsor. The Duke of Newcastle and Viscount Canning are Her Majesty's guests.

A Cabinet Council was held on Thursday, and again on Saturday; and summonses have been issued for another Council this day.

By the command of Her Majesty, the new Royal steam yacht, now nearly ready for launching at Pembroke, is to be named the *Victoria* and *Albert*, and the present *Victoria* and *Albert* is to have her name changed to the *Osborne*.

At the French Roman Catholic Chapel, at King-street, Baker-street, on Thursday morning, the first communion was administered to the Count D'Eu, eldest son of the Duc de Nemours. The Count read a renewal of his baptismal vows during the sermon, which was in the French language.

His Excellency Herr Von Usedom, charged with a special mission from Prussia to the Court of St. James's, arrived at Dover on Wednesday, and proceeded next morning to London.

Prince Albert, Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, being pleased to give annually a gold medal for the encouragement of English poetry, the Vice-Chancellor has just given notice that the prize will be given this year to such resident undergraduate as shall compose the best poem on the war in the Crimea.

Sir De Lacy Evans has arrived at the Pavilion Hotel, Folkestone; where he is expected to remain some time. The gallant general had an interview with the Emperor Napoleon, on his way through Paris.

Mr. Digby Seymour, M.P., is appointed Recorder of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. This appointment renders necessary a new election for the borough of Sunderland.

The office of Archdeacon of Natal has been accepted by the Rev. C. F. Mackenzie, M.A., Fellow and Tutor of Gaius College. Mr. Mackenzie was Second Wrangler in 1848, and has been led, partly it is believed, as the result of his own thoughts, and partly in consequence of Bishop Selwyn's recent course of sermons before the University, to devote himself to the noble work of endeavouring to raise up the Zulu nation of Natal from its present state of degraded heathenism.—*Cambridge Independent Press*.

An important change has been made in the matriculation examinations in the Queen's College in Ireland, for the purpose of facilitating the entrances, by removing some of the obstacles which stood in the student's way.

The Marchioness of Camden expired on Saturday morning, at Wilderness Park, near Sevenoaks, after a short illness, and in the prime of life. The deceased lady was eldest daughter of the Bishop of Rochester and Lady Sarah Murray. Her ladyship married, in 1835, the Marquis of Camden (then Earl of Brecknock) by whom she leaves a numerous family.

The venerable President of Magdalen College, Oxford (the Rev. Dr. Martin Joseph Routh), died, after a few days' illness, on Friday. Dr. Routh was in his 100th year, and had held the presidency of Magdalen College for sixty-three years.

An old warrior, General Sir James Kempt, Colonel of the First Regiment, died on Wednesday. He entered the army in 1783. He fought in Holland and Egypt under Abercromby; and commanded the Light Brigade at Maida. In 1811, he joined Wellington in the Peninsula; attacked and took the Picurians, an outwork of Badajoz; and was wounded in leading the brigade that carried the castle by escalade. He headed a brigade of the famous Light Division at Vittoria, at the fights in the Pyrenees, at Orthez, and Toulouse. At Waterloo he commanded a division, and was wounded in the head.

At a Court of Common Council, held on Wednesday, the report of the Consolidated Committee, containing propositions in answer to the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry, was brought up for consideration. But the motion for its adoption was met by an amendment to adjourn the consideration of the report, on the ground that within a few hours they would all be standing before their constituents for re-election. The amendment was carried by 56 to 31.

The annual wardmotes, held on Wednesday, for the

election of common councilmen and other officers, resulted in a very few unimportant alterations in the Council.

The twopenny toll on carts and waggons entering the City, if not the property of freemen, will cease on Monday. This antiquated and unpopular impost produced £6,000 to the corporation; but the threatnings of reform induced them to relinquish it.

At a meeting of the Almoners and Governors of Christ's Hospital, on Wednesday, the consideration of the report, so far as relates to the election of the Almoners' Committee, was adjourned; and a committee was appointed to inquire and report what changes are advisable in the constitution, powers, and duties of the Committee of Almoners.

Law and Police.

In December 1851 the *Examiner* newspaper contained an article relating to the notorious trial then recently closed, in which James Birch, proprietor of the Dublin newspaper the *World*, sought to recover £6,000 from Sir William Somerville for articles furnished by Birch and published in his paper. The *Examiner* article Mr. Birch considered to be a libel on him; and he entered an action in the Court of Queen's Bench against John Forster, registered proprietor of the *Examiner*. The case was brought to trial only on Wednesday last. Birch conducted his own case, and the Attorney-General defended Mr. Forster. The plea was justification. Four Cabinet Ministers were summoned as witnesses for the plaintiff; and three were examined—Lord Palmerston, Sir Charles Wood, and Lord Clarendon. The Foreign Secretary was subjected by Birch to a close examination; and the whole story of his connexion with Birch, whom he paid to write articles in defence of law and order in 1848, was raked up. Several witnesses proved that Birch was in the habit of attempting to obtain money by threats that he would publish damaging exposures unless he were paid—threats made to ladies, tradesmen, and trading societies. The jury held that the libel was justified, and found a verdict for the defendant.

The case of the *Queen versus Harrison*, an action against the printer of the *Times* newspaper for a libel on the Honourable Francis Scott, and other Directors of the South-Western Railway Company,—in remarks which imputed intriguing conduct during a dispute between two parties in the Company,—was tried on Friday in the Court of Queen's Bench, before Lord Campbell and a Special Jury. The libel was published on the 23d of November last year. The Jury found the defendant guilty, but he was not brought up for judgment.

In the Court of Common Pleas a Special Jury has given a verdict for £150 compensation to Abbott, a lighterman, for the death of his son and apprentice, who was drowned in St. Katherine's Dock, by a stanchion's giving way as he was attempting to ascend from a boat to the quay. The stanchion was quite insecure; and it was held that the Dock Company was bound to see that means used by people to get on to the quays are safe.

At the Central Criminal Court, Moody a beer-shop keeper, and Brown a shell-fishmonger have pleaded "guilty" to charges of keeping betting-houses in the City. The City authorities have resolved to put down such places; these prosecutions were intended as warnings; and on the defendants' pleading guilty, they were only bound over to appear for judgment if called upon.

Thomas William O'Keefe has been again brought up for judgment. He was convicted of obtaining £500 from Miss East, on pretence that he would marry her, while in fact he had a wife living. He has arranged to return £100 to Miss East, and to give security for the repayment of the other £400; he has already been in prison four months, and is in bad health; the Recorder liberated him on his own recognizances, and if he repay Miss East, no sentence will be passed on him.

On Wednesday, the two brothers, Francis Robert Newton, and Philip William Newton, the young men who so desperately assaulted Mr. Adam Stewart Ker, at Beulah Spa, were put on their trial. There were various counts in the indictment, the highest charging an "intent to murder." Mr. Ker stated, that at a party, William Newton, a stranger, asked him to take wine; which Mr. Ker thought a liberty, and he declined the invitation. Shortly afterwards, William Newton called on Mr. Ker "about his brother;" but Mr. Ker told him he knew nothing of his brother, and had not said anything disrespectful of him: the interview ended by Mr. Ker's taking his visitor by the collar and handing him down stairs, as the young man seemed unwilling to go; and Mr. William Newton then hinted a duel. On the same afternoon, Francis, after an altercation, struck Mr. Ker with a stick, in the street; Mr. Ker knocked him down; and would have lifted him up to knock him down again had not persons interfered. On the following day the brothers attacked him at Beulah Spa, with a hunting-whip, beating him on the head so violently, that for some time his life was endangered. Cross-examination elicited nothing from Mr. Ker to justify the prisoners. He denied positively that he had said Francis had been cashiered from the Army for embezzlement. Mr. Collier, who defended the prisoners, urged that Mr. Ker had made charges against the honour of Francis; but he called no witnesses to support his assertion. The Jury found the young men guilty of "unlawfully wounding," but recommended William, the younger, to mercy. Mr. Justice Creswell sentenced Francis to be imprisoned for nine months, and William for three.

Charles Mallett, who robbed and cruelly misused a Mrs. Harrison, in her house in Bull Inn Yard, was con-

victed; and sentence of death, was recorded against him.

At the Middlesex Sessions, John Adams, convicted of receiving a picture-frame stolen from a house at Chelsea, which was stripped of a large amount of property, was sentenced to six years' penal servitude; he had not thought proper to earn a more lenient sentence by giving information about the robbery.

A precocious criminal was convicted on Tuesday, at the same sessions. Ruth Elizabeth Scales, a girl only fifteen years of age, robbed her master, Mr. Holton, a butcher in Newport Court, of more than £100 in money, besides jewellery. She was traced to Limerick; she had spent most of the money, having purchased goods for sale in Australia, whither she intended to proceed. Sentence, six years' penal servitude.

Frederick Charles Maturin, a person of good connections, late district selecting agent at Woolwich to the Emigration Commissioners, is in custody for a number of cruel frauds. He pretended to poor people who applied to him that he had influence to get them accepted as Government emigrants, and by this false representation he extracted sums of money, their little savings: many of the people who paid these bribes were rejected by the Commissioners, because unfitted for emigrants.

François Longueville, a Frenchman, and Ernest Beauclerk, a Sardinian, have been remanded by the Southwark magistrate, on a charge of breaking into a house in the Blackfriars-road. They seem to be very dangerous characters. They broke open a door with a crowbar; and when Longueville was seized, besides the crowbar, various housebreaking implements were found on him. Beauclerk got away; when apprehended at his lodgings, more burglars' tools were discovered.

Barthelemy has been committed for trial, charged with two murders. The woman who accompanied him has escaped to the Continent. In a house he had hired at Chelsea, the police found that the floor of the kitchen had been removed and a great hole dug, for what purpose can only be surmised.

A distressing case has been brought before the Thames-police magistrate. Mr. Liell, a haberdasher of Bromley, has been compelled to prosecute his daughter Rebecca, a girl of seventeen, for robbing him. She is a vicious girl in other respects, and the father makes a criminal charge against her as a possible means of reclaiming her. She was committed for the robbery.

Mr. Richard Nunn, a jeweller, hitherto of high character, has been committed for trial, but admitted to bail, by the Clerkenwell magistrate, on a charge of transposing an old hall-mark of the Goldsmith's Company to a ring which a gentleman had commissioned him to make.

A short time since, a person named Saunders died at Camberwell, with a bag of sovereigns tied to his neck; Police-Sergeant Meirick allowed an officer of the corer to take possession of the bag without counting the contents; Saunders's widow was removed, in an informal manner, to the workhouse; three women there found a bag of sovereigns concealed on Mrs. Saunders's person, and they stole some of them. Sergeant Meirick feared that he should be called to account, and reduced to a private constable, for his remissness; and this so affected him that he committed suicide. The three paupers have been committed for trial by the Lambeth magistrate.

Miscellaneous News.

Near Kenosha, Wisconsin, a drunken man was a short time ago literally devoured by hogs while lying in the road in a state of beastly intoxication. His bones and a few remnants of his clothes were found.—*American paper.*

Four miners have perished in a coal-pit at Bedminster: they were descending the shaft, some of the machinery gave way, and then the rope broke; the miners fell to the bottom, into a pit of water, and the ponderous rope fell upon them.

A widow woman named Scott, 90 years of age, has committed suicide in Brechin. A thin piece of rope fastened to a nail at no great height enabled the deceased to commit the rash act; and her determination is indicated by the fact that her feet more than reached the floor. Deceased had of late suffered occasionally from mental derangement.

A melancholy result of the effects of tipping occurred on Sunday night week, at Merriott, whereby a poor fellow fell by the hand of one of his drinking companions. The prisoner's name is William Lewis; the deceased's name, Edmund Horner, both farm labourers, and fortunately unmarried. The prisoner said, "I will never do any such thing any more; I should at then, only both of us were very tipsy."

The London Assurance Freshold Land Society held a public meeting in the Angel Inn, Islington, on the evening of December 18th, John Chubb, Esq., in the chair. The manager, Mr. T. A. Burr, stated that this society supplied a great want in Land Societies generally by uniting the important principles of Life Assurance and Land Allotment—thus enabling a member to leave the amount of the property or share for which he may be paying free, to his representatives, on his death, should that event occur even after payment of his first subscription. The meeting was also addressed by S. T. Williams, and Joseph Soul, Esq.

On Wednesday night, in Wheeley's-road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, two sons of Mr. C. Clifford, of Farneley-street Mills, were taking an evening walk. When nearly opposite the residence of Mr. Joseph Sturge, they were approached by two fellows from behind; one of these struck the elder boy, Walter (a lad of fifteen), at the back of his head, the blow being in-

flicted with something very like a stocking with a stone in it; the other rascal struck at the younger boy, and hurt him slightly, but he escaped, and ran off to a neighbouring house for assistance. Before it arrived, however, the villains had beaten the elder boy so severely as to leave him insensible. They took his watch, and quickly decamped. Young Clifford remains in a very precarious state.

The Chester and Holyhead Company's packet, Llewellyn, has had a very rough passage across from Kingstown. Near the Welsh coast, she was struck by a tremendous sea, which carried away a portion of the bulwarks. The Marchioness of Hastings and her daughter, the Lady Bertha Hastings, had seated themselves on deck to windward, where they were in some measure protected by a canvas awning. Both ladies were thrown with great violence from off their seats, and carried across the deck under the bow of the long boat, to leeward, the Marchioness having sustained a severe blow on the temple, and some injury to her back, was found completely wedged in under the long boat, from which position she was removed with difficulty. Lady Bertha escaped comparatively unhurt. The Marchioness was on her way from the Duke of Leinster's seat, at Portsmouth, to meet her husband, Captain Yelverton, of the Arrogant.

The burglary season seems to be setting in with severity. At Southampton, the inhabitants are in great terror; many robberies have been committed; subscriptions are made for the capture and conviction of the burglars; the police force is to be increased, and householders are arming themselves with revolvers. At Birmingham, burglaries attended with violence are reported; in one case a house was entered in broad day, and the woman who had charge of it was shamefully misused by one of the ruffians who plundered the place. At Newcastle-on-Tyne, a number of men are in custody, who are supposed to be members of a gang who have perpetrated at least twenty burglaries of late in Durham and Northumberland; they did not condescend to take plunder less costly than plate or jewellery; one of those arrested is a journeyman silversmith, who is supposed to have been useful to the gang in disposing the plate.

The Tonic Sol-fa Association, "for the promotion of vocal music in schools, houses, and congregations," has just held its fourth subscription choral meeting, in Finsbury Chapel. The choir was composed of 170 children from various day-schools of the metropolis, under the direction of Mr. Brown, one of their teachers. A selection of the most popular school pieces from the works of Hickson, Hullah, Crampton, Tilleard, Silcher and others, was sung with good spirit and expression. All were delighted—none more so than the young choristers themselves. Samuel Morley, Esq., took the chair, and spoke heartily in favour of the movement. At his suggestion, and by his liberal aid, the repetition of this juvenile entertainment, which is to be given on New Year's Day Morning, is to be free to all. Those parents who wish to inculcate their children with the love of innocent song, will not fail to take them very early to Finsbury Chapel on that occasion. Of the choral meeting (adult choir) on Jan. 9th, and of the great gathering of classes in February, our advertising columns will give due information.

A sad tale is told by the Hampshire papers. Mr. Tait, a farmer and timber merchant, at Lyndhurst, in the New Forest, missed on Wednesday week a pretty little girl, of four years of age. His neighbours and friends searched for three days without success. On the Sunday, the child was found, burnt to death, in a turnip-field, close to an out-house. At first it was thought that there must have been some foul play, and that the body had been placed where it was found. At the coroner's inquest, however, the matter was rationally interpreted. The child had been playing with the fire in the out-house near which she was discovered dead, and had nearly burnt herself, and she was chid for it. It is believed that she again played with what she had been forbidden to touch on the day she was missed and set herself on fire. Her first impulse of course was to run from the out-house, and as soon as she got out, the flames enveloped her, and not being able to see where to run, she went towards the turnip-field, and in a few moments was suffocated and fell down on the spot where her corpse was found. The sympathy and assistance rendered to Mr. Tait during his trial by the kind-hearted foresters were beyond praise.

The first general meeting of the council of teachers and the students of the Working Man's College, in Red Lion-square, was held on Wednesday evening, the close of the first term. After tea, the Rev. Frederick Maurice, the Principal, made a general statement. Since the opening of the College, nearly 180 students have been admitted. The best-attended class is the Bible, comprising 50 or 60 students; next, the classes on Algebra and Grammar. The class on Public Health has not as yet been successful. Those on Political Words and the play of "King John" have been scantily attended; but these classes will re-open in the ensuing term, commencing on the 7th January. The Principal spoke highly of the industry and intelligence of his pupils. The other teachers, Mr. Ruskin especially, declared themselves fully satisfied as to the practicability of teaching the highest branches of knowledge to working men during their leisure hours. Mr. Ruskin congratulated the Drawing class on the accession of Mr. Dante Rossetti to the Council of Teachers. All the old classes will be continued, and new ones will be instituted—namely, a French class, by M. Talandier; a Latin class, by Mr. Irving; and one on Political Economy, with Mr. Mill's work as a text-book, by Mr. Vansittart Neale. An evening school, distinct from the College but under its superintendence, will be commenced for instruction in reading, writing, and arithmetic. The Principal and teachers were all received with hearty expressions of friendly feelings, and the meeting seemed to be pervaded by a hopeful spirit.

Literature.

Edward Irving: an Ecclesiastical and Literary Biography. By WASHINGTON WILKS, Author of a "History of the Half-Century," &c. London: W. Freeman.

It is, we presume, owing to the absence of materials for a personal life of Edward Irving—and to the necessity of relying on his published works and the events and acts of his public life, for the substance of such a memorial as is here attempted—that Mr. Wilks has given to this volume the specific title of "an ecclesiastical and literary biography." What Mr. Wilks has learned from "the family and some friends of Mr. Irving," or gleaned by inquiry from those amongst whom Irving laboured, adds but little to the notices contained in *Chalmers's Life*, and in the few fervent pages of Carlyle. But the impulse to the task of writing this sketch, was derived from vivid recollections of Edward Irving, as the "last, best friend" of the author's father, and from "an inherited reverence for his qualities of mind and heart;" and the study and painstaking bestowed on the subject have borne fruit, honourable to the catholic feeling and intellectual ability of the writer, and exceedingly acceptable as the only attempt yet made to do justice to the character of a great and wonderful man. A delicate and difficult task has been executed with much discrimination and judgment, with warm sympathy and full appreciation. The mastery of a thoroughly good style, which Mr. Wilks displays, is another very great merit in the book; to which we may apply, in all their depth and truth, the terms so often vaguely and conventionally employed—graphic, brilliant, powerful, and singularly natural and clear.

All that Mr. Wilks has to tell of Irving up to about his twenty-fifth year is contained within four pages; and then we have the following delineation of his person, habits, and attainments.

"Let us realize to ourselves what manner of youth he was—this affianced husband of Miss Isabella Martin, rector of a Scottish school, and destined pastor of a Scottish kirk. He made no noble, if not pleasing, a figure to the outward eye, that he could not fail to attract the gaze and impress the memory of the passer-by. 'He could never enter a village, but he caught the attention of both old and young. Labour stood still as he passed—the bucket hung suspended in the middle of the well—the spinning-wheel forgot its round—even chuck-farthing and shuffle-cap themselves stood gaping till he had got out of sight.' He was at least six feet high. All his limbs were well proportioned. Black hair clustered in profusion over his lofty forehead, and descended in untaught curls upon his Herculean shoulders. His eyes, or rather eye—for of one the sight was damaged, and had the appearance known as a squint—was dark, piercing, but soft. His face was of that bi-fold beauty, that, viewed on one side, as some one has said, you had the profile of a brigand, on the other that of a saint. On his lips there sat the firmness of a ruler, and trembled the sensibility of a poet. He was no awkward giant. He was an athlete, as well as an Hercules. He could walk, run, leap, and swim, with the best of the 'neighbour lads.' He permitted himself no slovenliness in dress, but rather affected the costume of an English clergyman. Not was he, though a scholar and divine, an ascetic. He had none of the Phariseism either of society or of the church. 'He associated with and lived in the world without restraint,' says an anonymous writer, who may be Allan Cunningham—'joining in the forms and fashions of mixed society, even to what would by some be set down as vulgarity; for he, at one time, was accustomed to smoke his pipe in companies where smoking was introduced.' He was remarkable, at the same time, for blamelessness of life. His morals were held to be untainted, and his conscientiousness both acute and regnant. Though devoted to the pulpit, he had prepared himself for a possible application to the bar, and indeed for any learned profession. He added large classical knowledge to his mathematical excellence, and acquaintance with the modern languages and their literature to both. He also possessed more than the ordinary acquirements in natural philosophy. This, at his entrance in manhood, he 'gave the world assurance of a man,' and was thoroughly furnished for whatever work might be demanded of him by his generation. But even to this man of high capacity and diligent training, a function did not immediately present itself. Even in the church, which should be the most perfect of human organisations, there is not realised without delay, the grand requirement of social life—the aim of political science—'to every man a place according to his faculty.' Irving was now nearing the thirtieth year of his age, and no 'call' had come to him from presbytery or patron; or, if from the latter, it had been rejected—for this friendless, struggling man, burning with the consciousness of great unchallenged powers, had high notions of ministerial independence—and, if from the former, it had not proved effectual to settlement in the parish manse. It seems, in truth, that whenever his preaching gift had been exercised, it was so much to the discontent of his hearers, that he got no second invitation. He was dowered with the double curse of originality and independence—a wayward genius, and an obstinate habit of 'standing on his own instinct.' He had fed his soul with the words of Chrysostom, the Christian Plato—of Jeremy Taylor, the English Chrysostom—and of Hooker, the Baron of the Church—till he had come to regard, as of mean speech and feeble thought, all living preachers and theologians, with the exception of Chalmers, who had started into favour just as Irving, twelve years his junior, was settling into the pedagogue. He had nurtured his ardent spirit by the companionship of those great churchmen who aspired to rule for Christ, from the altar or the pulpit, in all the provinces of human activity—he had consorted with the shades of Hildebrand and Knox—till he had become of such heroic mood as to disdain the timid bearing of his contemporaries, in the presence of social power and social problems; and to despise the low arts by which, in the Scottish scarce less

than in the English Establishment, the clergy obtained preferment. At the same time, the cast of his intellect and the fervour of his patriotism made him averse to secession from the National Church—while the catholicity of spirit engendered by large reading, disposed him to the imitation of past examples, the exercise of genial practices, beyond the bounds of her own communion, even to the farthest limits permitted by his creed."

We do not mean to follow the course of Irving's history;—we wish our readers to go to Mr. Wilks's volume, to learn how this manly man came through the discipline of severe struggle, to the world-eminent place which he afterwards occupied. From Mr. Wilks's ingenious and able use of Irving's various sermons and orations—and from the considerable body of well chosen and remarkable extracts he has given from them—they will be able, also, to learn that this man, whom many think of only as a madman, or possibly an impostor, was a profoundly religious, devout, humble, loving creature,—whose very being was offered as a living sacrifice to his God,—whose heart and mind were large and stately, noble and generous,—whose life, in all its brokenness and contradictions, is yet a study of real greatness and faithfulness of soul.

Mr. Wilks tells the tale of Irving's "heresy," and of the appearance of the so-called "gift-of-tongues," and of the troubled days and the trial and excommunication which followed, in an impartial spirit; and without committing himself either to Irving's doctrine, or to the admission of a veritable supernaturalism in the facts he has to record. Edward Irving's career is made comprehensible to us; and we are to judge for ourselves how far it is admirable or defensible. But there is something of uncertainty in Mr. Wilks's pronouncements on Irvingism. He carefully tells us that he is not of the body, but speaks of it as a church having such adaptations to the tendencies and wants of the age, that it may well claim "Divine origin and guidance;" and there is a general impression left on the reader's mind, of indecision and half-thinking on the author's part. From several of the remarks by the way, we also strongly dissent;—as, for instance, the assumed superiority of the author's stand-point, as having "the elevation of freedom from all church bonds;" and the remark, in the extract we have given, that "the aim of political science" is "to find every man a place according to his faculty,"—words in which there is confusion of thought as to the nature of science, as well as a false theory of politics. It is a mere matter of opinion, whether Thomas Carlyle is "the most trusted of philosophers;" or whether the characteristics of the Rev. F. D. Maurice are, that he is "an eloquent preacher and eminent religious reformer." To us, in each case, these seem the least characteristic and true things that could be written of the men. But allowing for such differences of opinion, Mr. Wilks has deserved sincere approval and praise, and we cordially bestow them.

John Howard. A Memoir. By HEPPWORTH DIXON. A New Edition. London: Jackson and Walford. THERE are some dozen biographies written in our day, which will go down to posterity as representations of that department of literature in the middle of the nineteenth century, and as worthily preserving the great names and characters with which they are occupied. Mr. Hepworth Dixon's *John Howard* is one of these. It has a fine subject, and it is finely treated. Mr. Dixon unites knowledge to intellect, and judgment to sympathy, and literary power to all these; and has the reward of their careful exercise on a fitting theme, in the remarkable success of this first work. We rejoice to see it in a cheaper edition—accessible to all readers, in a neat and convenient form, at the cost of half-a-crown.

Mr. Dixon tells us the story of the early fortunes of his book, in the preface to this new edition. It was written when he was very young, and lay long on his hands. Unknown as he was to Letters, no publisher would venture to produce it—one said the subject was too old, another too new, and so on. Then the author tried to give it away; but he could not even get it accepted. At last it came into hands by which it was judged to be worth something, and was published accordingly,—and the public ratified the judgment by demanding three editions within a year. Mr. Dixon gives these facts as an encouragement to young authors,—but we warn the said young authors, that they must have similar merits to gain similar success.

This edition has been thoroughly revised, and the fruits of extended reading and observation, and of still further knowledge of Howard's character, have been introduced into it. A great deal of new matter is added, in the shape of anecdotes and fuller statements of matters of fact. Let us give a specimen of what we believe to be entirely new—though unable at the moment to compare editions.

LITERATURE IN THE KING'S BENCH

"The King's Bench—one of the oldest prisons in

London—was the subject of many visits. It also had attractions, old and new. It was the prison of mad-cap Prince Hal, and of fanatical Thomas Story. There had lived for six years, and there died, the famous John Rushworth. Richard Baxter had been there, too—a man very likely to interest John Howard: as had also Tobias Smollett, for his libel on Admiral Knowles. But the visitor took no pains to notice these mere personal facts. Four years before his visit, poor Kit Smart, the friend of Garrick and Johnson, and author of the 'Hilliad,' had died within the walls, poor, abandoned by the world, and deranged in his intellect."

NEWGATE IN OLDEN TIMES.

"It curiously illustrates the absence of all mere sentiment as a motive in Howard's prison visits, to see that this great gaol, though perhaps more closely woven with the story of England's religious life than any other in the metropolis, was one of the last at which he called. From the Reformation downward, Newgate had been the home of many of our noblest martyrs—of John Bradford, the friend of Ridley, and John Rough, the author of that noble 'Letter to some Friends;' of John Field and Thomas Wilcox, whom Fuller visited in prison, and whose Admonition to Parliament for the Reformation of Church Discipline was the great organ of Puritan doctrine; of Leighton, father of the great Archbishop, and Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania. Nor had it wanted other and more graceful inmates. George Wither occupied a cell in Newgate; as did afterwards George Sackville, poet, rake, and Earl of Dorset. Titus Oates had also lived, and Dangerfield died there. As sides were up or down, Puritan and Churchman, Catholic and Dissenter, went there in turn. After Oates and Dangerfield came Bishops Ellis and Leyburn, and Lord Preston; Burnet visited the poor Bishops in their noisome dungeon, when he was so shocked at their miserable plight that he commanded the keeper, in the name of the Prince of Orange, to remove them into less disgusting cells. Defoe was carried from the pillory to Newgate, where he wrote his Hymn to the Pillory, that

'Hieroglyphic state machine,
Contrived to punish Fancy in.'

And so we might go on, with the Fleet, the Tower, and Tyburn Tree; or with the story, strange and sad, of Ryland the engraver; or with particulars of the military system of Russia; on all which and some other topics, there are new paragraphs introduced into the volume. There is also a very vividly written and touching passage, descriptive of Howard's last visit to his old home at Cardington, which we should like to extract, but have not space at command. So improved is the book by this revision and enlargement, that no earlier edition can henceforth be considered as doing justice to Mr. Dixon's ability, diligence, and reputation; or as fully meeting all the possibilities of conveying information, or awakening interest, as to the character and life of our noble and immortal Howard.

Poetical Works of Edmund Waller. Edited by ROBERT BELL (Annotated English Poets.) London: J. W. Parker and Son.

THE poems of Waller, necessary as they are to a complete edition of British poets, have only an historical interest. Great as was his contemporary celebrity, and though he long enjoyed something like fame, he is no longer read either for the truth of his sentiment or the beauty of his fancy. His praise may be written in one sentence;—that he is free from both the moral and artistic defects of the poets of his time, and that his versification is singularly correct and elegant. His *Panegyric on Cromwell*, the most read of all his poems, which contains many good lines, and is confessedly a favourable specimen of his powers, must be considered to put it beyond dispute that he had a common-place mind and was excessively diffuse in manner. His *Divine Poems* are the most concentrated and vigorous, and alike in thought and feeling are the best of his compositions.

Mr. Bell has done all that could be done for an edition of Waller,—by appropriate notes, in which the occasions and allusions of the poems are excellently explained: and by a careful Memoir, in which a full picture is given of the poet's inconsistent and unmanly life. From the critical portion of the memoir we make an extract, worthy of praise for its judicious and fair remarks.

"His first poem written in his eighteenth year, is remarkable in this respect—that it may be accepted as the model of all the poems that followed. He not only never departed from this model, but never improved upon it. The circumstance upon which it is founded—the escape of Prince Charles in a tempest on his homeward voyage from Spain—is related by Clarendon. Waller amplifies the incident, embellishes it with careful flattery, and elevates it into an heroic episode by the employment of classical machinery. It is not, however, his manner of treating so slight a subject that constitutes the chief interest, or curiosity, of the piece. Grand exaggerations were common enough in that age of patronage and hyperbole. The metrical system developed and laid down in these verses distinguishes them from all other first attempts in poetry. At no period did Waller construct his lines with a more rigid adherence to the standard of versification he had set up, or adopted, from the beginning. 'If we were to judge only by the wording,' says one of his critics, 'we could not know what was

wrote at twenty and what was wrote at fourscore.' To which Dr. Johnson adds, 'Denham corrected his numbers by experience, and gained ground gradually upon the ruggedness of his age; but what was acquired by Denham was inherited by Waller.' Dr. Johnson probably intended to convey, that Waller inherited his numbers from Fairfax; but it had been better said elsewhere that he attained them by a 'felicity like instinct.' . . . That which in Fairfax is always aimed at, and frequently accomplished, is the undeviating rule in Waller, from which scarcely a solitary aberration can be detected. Of Sandys, also, it may be said, as of Fairfax, that his numbers were generally correct; but of Waller alone, that they were invariably musical. To the fact that Waller had determined on his scheme of versification before he began to versify, and that he went on and ended as he commenced, may be referred at once the source of his distinctive merits, and their obvious bounds. The form took precedence of the matter; the inspiration waited on the vehicle. All the excellence that could be achieved by elegant turns of expression, select images, and deliberate flights of fancy, or of sentiment, restrained within prescribed limits, is to be found, brought to the utmost point of certainty and finish, in his verse. But his exquisite workmanship solicits attention rather by its exquisite skill, than by its solidity, or the uses to which it is applied. The light and graceful structure could not bear much weight of thought, or be rendered available for large designs. Waller's permanent object was to produce smooth and melodious lines; and in that object he entirely succeeded. 'When he was a brisk young spark,' Aubrey informs us, 'and first studied poetry,' Methought, said he, 'I never saw a good copy of English verses; they want smoothness; then I began to essay.' This is the key to everything he wrote."

On the Importance of the Study of Economic Science, as a branch of Education for all Classes. A Lecture, &c. By W. B. HODGSON, LL.D. London: J. W. Parker and Son.

THIS is the last lecture of the Series on Education, delivered at the Royal Institution; and is one of the most important in subject, and one of the strongest in thought and most perfect in literary form, of the whole course. Dr. Hodgson does not attempt to expound Economic Science itself, or to sketch its field or compass, any further than is indispensable to showing its importance as a branch of general instruction. Some of the salient points in the industrial progress of the world—some of the great theoretic principles it involves,—of course appear in the treatment even of the practical aspects of the subject. The certainty of fixed laws of human well-being, and of a degree of well-being strictly proportioned to the obedience, conscious or unconscious, rendered to those laws,—the immediate advantages of the study of them,—the deduction thence of rules of conduct,—and the exhibition of duties imperatively taught by them,—these are the prominent topics on which Dr. Hodgson dwells; and we earnestly recommend our readers to see his lecture for themselves.

We are glad to see that he enters a protest against that one-sided and socially injurious book, Mr. Dickens' *Hard Times*. He remarks, with perfect truth, that the author's descriptions are "just as like to real Economic Science as 'statistics' are to 'stutterings,' two words which he makes one of his characters not very naturally confound;" and adds—"He who misrepresents what he ridicules, does, in truth, not ridicule what he misrepresents."

It can hardly be necessary to put in here any vindication of Economic Science itself; or, on the other hand, to protest against the overbalance of pseudo-economical considerations, which combined ignorance and selfishness have pressed forward too much in modern politics and social movement. There is, of course, Economic Science "falsely so called," as there is the "pseudo-" to all science; and what is wanted in the common education of our people is, what Dr. Hodgson pleads for—an exposition, verification, and application of true economical principles.

Lectures on the Epistle to the Romans. Vol. II. By THOMAS CHALMERS, D.D. (Select Works of Dr. Chalmers.) Edinburgh: T. Constable and Co.

WE receive with great pleasure, and recommend with great cordiality to the notice of our readers, this second volume of Messrs. Constable and Co.'s handsome and cheap edition of the select works of Chalmers,—completing the expository lectures on the Romans. A better commentary on the epistle from the critical point of view, may certainly be found; but a better exposition of its main doctrinal thought, and the related moral and practical topics arising out of it, we are unable to refer to. Personally it is to us always refreshing to read one of these lectures. Their spiritual insight, their considerable suggestiveness, their wise practicalness and catholic-hearted feeling, all—though opinions in detail may be unaccepted by the reader—unite to give the work a high merit, and to bespeak for it an enduring place in that department of Biblical literature which is the most useful to the church at large.

The Frost on the Pane. A Christmas Story. Edited by W. B. RANDS. London: W. and F. G. Cash.

Too late for notice in its proper place, but far too good to go unnoticed. It is everything that a Christmas book should be. Title, illustrations, conception, and spirit—all are borrowed from, and in perfect keeping with, the season of frost-painted windows, but of bright fancies and warm hearts. The scene is an English village of twenty years ago,—the time is Christmas eve,—and the story, suggested by figures seen in the frost-work, one that, unencumbered by any weighty moral, moves by sweet natural touches to faith and kindness. The author—compelled by his nice sense of artistic truth, to call himself editor—hints that he knows more than is here told of one of his characters:—we hope he will not let next Christmas find the tale untold.

The Colonial Almanack for the Year 1855. Edinburgh: A. and C. Black.

To a good Almanack and Calendar, and the usual accompanying information, there is here subjoined a large body of facts and figures on Colonial matters, and a complete collection of Colonial Tariffs:—a most important manual for shippers and traders with the colonies, or for emigrants in general. Its detailed statistics of Exports and Imports, and of the English merchant service, and its lists of all British Consuls and Vice-Consuls, with their residences, &c., are very useful features. Its statistics of the population, slaves, religious denominations, public debt, imports, exports, vessels built and tonnage, of the United States, at different periods during the half century, will be found exceedingly valuable.

Emily Vernon; or Fictitious Piety Exemplified. By Mrs. DRUMMOND, Author of "Lucy Seymour," &c. Edinburgh: W. P. Kennedy.

Mrs. DRUMMOND does not now for the first time claim the ear of young people; she has already established herself in their favour. Her story is deeply interesting—not, we think, quite as perfect in a literary point of view, as such an author might have made it,—but having substantial merits, strong attractiveness in its incidents, and a pleasing manner of narration. The lesson of the book is, the duty of true candour, docility, and sincere obedience to parents; and the certain misery that attends secretiveness, insincerity, and disobedience in youth. There are other lessons by the way. And we may add, that it specially bears on the contract of marriage on right principles and rational considerations; and, on this matter, addresses itself to girls.

BIRTHS.

December 17th, the wife of the Rev. R. BREWER, of Leeds, of a daughter.
December 18th, at Workington, Cumberland, the wife of Mr. HEWITT BOWEN, of a son.
December 18th, at 2, Melville-street, Portobello, Edinburgh, the wife of the Rev. WILLIAM ALLEN, of a son.
December 21st, at Upper Clapton, the wife of the Rev. H. J. GAMBLE, of a son.
December 21st, at Kentish Town, London, the wife of Mr. ROBERT MACREY, of a daughter.
December 22nd, at 1, Melville-terrace, Kentish-town, London, Mrs. JOHN SEKKER, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

December 20th, at St. Mary's Chapel, Norwich, by the Rev. G. Gould, the Rev. JOSEPH JOHN JOPLIN, of Keynsham, to CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH, daughter of Mr. S. PORTER, of Norwich.
December 20th, at St. Thomas's-square Chapel, Hackney, by the Rev. J. Griffith Jukes, WILLIAM WATSON, Esq., of Camden-town, to MARY JANE, second daughter of the late WILLIAM WILDSMITH, Esq., of Leeds.
December 21st, at the Independent Chapel, Weedon, by the Rev. J. EVANS, Mr. EDWARD BLAKE, of Marsh-Gibson, Bucks, to LOUISA RUSSELL GREEN, of Weedon.
December 21st, by licence, at Salem Chapel, Newton Abbott, by the Rev. John Chater, Mr. ALFRED LAW, third son of WILLIAM LAW, Esq., of Newton Abbott, to LYDIA EUPHRODIA KENNEDY, stepdaughter of the late Rev. EDWARD NEWTON, of Kingsbridge, Devon.

December 21st, at the Congregational Church, Holloway, by the Rev. A. Stewart, Mr. PHILIP STEWART, of Palmer House, Holloway, to MARGARET MONTAGUE, second daughter of Mr. ROBERT MURRAY, of Hallford-street, Islington.

December 23rd, in Salem Chapel, by Rev. James Carlile, D.D., Mr. RICHARD B. GUEST to ELIZABETH HARRIET BUCKLAND; and at the same time, Mr. JOHN JAMES BUCKLAND to SARAH CORFIELD, all of Woolwich, and teachers in the Salem Chapel Sunday-schools.

December 25th, at the Baptist Chapel, Derby-road, Nottingham, by the Rev. James Edwards, Mr. JOHN CAWSON, of Sheffield, to BETSY BRADBURY, second daughter of Mr. JOHN S. BARNSDALL, of Nottingham.

December 25th, at Bloomsbury Chapel, by the Rev. W. Brock, Mr. EDWARD WELLS, of London, to ANNA ELIZA, second daughter of Mr. THOMAS CRAWLEY, of Chertsey.

December 25th, at the Baptist Chapel, Bishops' Stortford, by the Rev. B. Hodgkins, Mr. W. TANNER, tailor, to Miss JANE HALLS, both of Bishops' Stortford.

DEATHS.

September 1st, drowned in the China Seas, HARCOURT M. STEWART, aged 27, chief officer of the *Jemima Pereira*, second son of the Rev. JOHN STEWART, of Liberton.

October 11th, on her passage to England for the recovery of her health, ARABELLA, wife of Capt. C. W. FORD, 42nd Regt. Bengal Native Infantry, aged 33.

October 25th, killed in the engagement at Balaklava, aged 27, Captain THOMAS HOWARD GOAD, 13th Light Dragoons, eldest son of the late B. GOAD, Esq., and stepson of the late General Sir THOMAS BRADFORD, G.C.B., G.C.H.

November 14th, wrecked in the transport *Rip Van Winkle*, off Balaklava, HARRY CROFT, late Captain in the Royal Dragoons, and eldest son of the late Col. CROFT, of Stillington-hall, in the county of York, aged 29.

November 14th, drowned, in the wreck of Her Majesty's screw steam transport *Prince*, in the dreadful hurricane, off Balaklava, Commander BENJAMIN DAYTON, R. N.

November 14th, perished in the hurricane, in which he was midshipman, Mr. CHARLES W. ADAM, aged 16 years, younger son of J. ADAM, Esq., of Boulogne-sur-mer, deeply lamented.

November 27th, in camp, on the heights before Sebastopol, ARTHUR WILLIAM GODFREY, Lieut., 1st Battalion, Rifle Brigade, second and beloved son of JOHN GODFREY, Esq., of Brooke-house, Ash, near Sandwich, Kent.

November 28th, in the Hospital at Sentari, JOSEPH HOLFORD, Lieutenant in the 28th Regiment of Infantry.

December 4th, at Eaton Socon, Beds, aged 76, SARAH, wife of W. LAW, Esq.

December 13th, at Woodford, Northamptonshire, after a brief illness, Mr. H. C. HILL, aged 50 years, leaving four orphans, and a numerous circle of friends, to deplore his decease.

December 15th, in her 76th year, at No 8, Cambridge-terrace, Kingsland, Mrs. SARAH JENNINGS, relict of the late BENJAMIN JENNINGS, Esq., R.N.

December 15th, at No. 9, Devonshire-terrace, Hyde-park, the residence of her brother, THOMAS KEOGH, Esq., Miss KEOGH.

December 16th, at the house of his son-in-law, Rev. H. J. Rook, Faversham, Mr. EDWARD NEWELL, aged 85 years.

December 16th, at the Heath, Weybridge, in her 66th year, SUSANNAH, relict of the late BENJAMIN WHINNELL SCOTT, Esq., of Clapton-common, Middlesex.

December 16th, at Wimbledon, JOHN FRANCIS SCOTT, Esq., second son of the late JOHN SCOTT, Esq., Public Secretary to Lord Nelson at the Battle of Trafalgar.

December 20th, at Audley-place School, Cork, of water on the brain, HENRY KNAPP, aged 9 years.

December 23rd, the wife of the Rev. B. WOODYARD, 3, Park-place, Chatham-place, Hackney.

Gleanings.

To George Sand, for the history of her life, now in course of publication in a Paris paper, £5,200 have been paid.

Madame Ida Pfeiffer has now successfully accomplished her second voyage round the world, and arrived in London, after an absence of three years and a half.

The original MS. of "Scots wha hae" was recently sold in London, by auction, for £30, and goes to America. Other autographs of Burns brought high prices.

In America you may buy a "Lola Montes Razor," or the "Harriet Martineau Tooth Wash." In honour of a popular actress, there is also on sale the "Julia Dean Chewing Tobacco."

The editor of a Western (United States) paper thus introduces some verses.—"The poem published this week was composed by an esteemed friend who has lain in his grave many years merely for his own amusement."

"You seem puzzled," said Dick to Tom. "Yes," was Tom's reply; "as puzzled as Harry Simpkins, the medical student, when the examiner asked him where he would look for the trombone."

Mr. John Gray, cordwainer, West Hartlepool, has a "pout" of the Cochin China breed which, wonderful to relate, in nine successive days has laid twelve eggs, all of tolerable size, and is now laying regularly every day—a daily phenomenon not of daily occurrence in the world, and not lightly to be esteemed when "eggs are eggs."

Mynheer Van der B., an opulent Amsterdam merchant, recently making his will, proposed to leave 250 florins to every Catholic priest in the city; but when, a few weeks ago, his will was opened, it was found that the word "priest" had been omitted, and every Catholic, priest and layman, was entitled to the legacy. His estate will bear the charge, and still leave a handsome surplus to his family; but they are making an attempt to escape payment.

A new play has been performed in Yankeeeland, dictated by Shakspeare to a "medium!" His admirers will regret to hear that he has sadly degenerated since he left the earth. Here is a description of a star that was afflicted with temporary insanity:—

Through the swift-parting spheres
A star ran madly, paused, and scream'd,
Then over night, with wicked whirl,
Pitched itself into space!

The following are a few extracts from *Punch's Almanack* for the new year:—

A COCKNEY TRUISM.—Barbers are like Chameleons—they live on (h)air.

The veil was given to flirts to hide the want of blushes.

LONGEVITY OF WOMEN.—A married woman ought to last longer than a single one because she is husbanded.

"TIS TRUE, 'TIS PITY; AND PITY 'TIS 'TIS TRUE."

---Honeymoon bliss sometimes turns out to be mere moonshine.

INFORMATION FOR INNOCENTS.—When anybody talks much about his trials, there is some reason to believe him to be a thief.

A teetotaler is a person who eats his toast and does not drink it.

Under a long dress you have a perfect right to suspect there lies hid a large foot.

With many women, going to church is little better than looking into a Bonnet Shop.

In many cases, the Piano is used as an instrument of envy to drown a rivals voice.

A SONG has always one beauty—it invariably sets every one in the room talking. There is no better cue for general conversation than "a little music."

A SEASIDE REFLECTION.—There is continued novelty in the aspect of the ocean; and yet it seems strange that salt water should be ever fresh.

LEGAL ADVICE TO YOUNG LADIES.—Don't accept the hand of anybody who tells you that he is going to marry and settle. Make him settle first, and let him marry afterwards.

PECULIARITY OF THE PIG.—Hogs are universally considered dirty animals; nevertheless, a pig likes his daily Wash.

USEFUL RECIPE: TO MAKE TWO SOUPS OF ONE THING.—Buy the Tail of an Ox entire, shave it, and with the hair thus obtained make Hair-Soup, reserving the remainder of the purchase for Ox-Tail.

THE ALTAR AND THE CROSS.—We always feel sorry for illiterate brides and bridegrooms who have to put "their mark" in the Parish Register; for it seems ominous that their wedded life should begin with crosses.

RULE FOR YOUNG HOUSEKEEPERS.—The smallest possible waste, without pinching.

HINT ON EPIQUETTE.—The unaccountable dislike which many ladies have that their ages should be known, suggests the suspicion that we may not always make ourselves so agreeable as we fancy in wishing a female acquaintance many happy returns for her birthday. It would, perhaps, be more judicious to wish her as many returns of the day as she can desire.

A BATCH OF CONUNDRUMS.—When does snow look most poetical?—When it is turned into rime. What part of Pimlico best agrees with the digestion of its inhabitants?—That part which is eaten square (Eaton-square). When was King John most like dirty linen?—When he went into the Wash. What is the worth of a letter that contains ten jokes?—A Ten-pun' note.

[ADVERTISEMENT.]—The full value of an admirable remedy—COD LIVER OIL—not only in Consumption, but in many other painful disorders, has hitherto not been so justly appreciated in England, as by our Continental neighbours,—practical experience having taught them its extraordinary efficacy in cases of Rheumatism, Gout, Bronchitis, Asthma, Rickets, Scrofula, and Cutaneous Diseases, and its superiority over every other medicine for the removal of General Debility in children and adults, and for the restoration of strength to the convalescent. Probably this error has arisen from the difficulty of obtaining Cod Liver Oil in a pure and genuine state—few articles being more ingeniously and extensively adulterated or tampered with. This obstacle is now fortunately removed by the introduction into this country of the celebrated Light Brown Cod Liver Oil of Dr. de Jongh, whose indefatigable researches, during a period of fifteen years, have enabled him to detect the causes of the too frequent failures of this remedy, to discover its essential properties, and to supply an article ensuring the confidence of medical practitioners and their suffering patients. Sold in imperial Half Pint, Pint, and Quart Bottles with full directions for use, by Ansar, Harford, and Co., 77, Strand, London, Dr. de Jongh's accredited Agents and Consignees, and may be obtained from all respectable Chemists and Druggists in the Kingdom.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, Tuesday Evening.

Yesterday being Christmas-day, the Stock Exchange, and all other places of commercial resort, was closed; and to-day we have little to report.

The English Funds opened this morning without change. The market appears to be in rather a stagnant position, there being few speculative transactions, and no foreign news of sufficient importance to influence prices. Consols for the January Account were first called at 91½ to 91¾ ex. div.; Reduced Three per Cents. are at 91½, and the New Three per Cents. 91¾ to 91½. India Bonds, 9s. to 12s. Bank Stock 207 to 209. Exchequer Bills, 4s. to 7s. prem. There is little change in Foreign Securities. Peruvian 4½ per cent. are about £1 weaker. Turkish continues steady, at 74½ to 75½.

In the course of the day, Reduced Three per Cents. have declined to 91, and the New Three per Cents. to 91½. Bank Stock, 209. India Bonds, 9s. to 12s. Exchequer Bills, 4s. to 7s. premium; ditto Bonds, 99½ to 99¾.

The Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Saturday, the 16th day of December, 1854.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	27,369,845	Government Debt	11,016,100
		Other Securities	2,984,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion	13,369,845
		Silver Bullion	—
	227,369,845		227,369,845

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital	14,553,000	Government Securities	— (including Dead Weight Annuity)
Reserve	3,132,039		11,565,788
Public Deposits	6,035,675	Other Securities	13,869,287
Other Deposits	9,710,512	Notes	8,330,790
Seven Day and other Bills	993,112	Gold and Silver Coin	659,034
	234,424,338		234,424,338

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

Dated the 21st day of December, 1854.

Friday, December 22nd, 1854.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

W. G. S. Mockford, Rood-lane, City, merchant, December 19.
M. E. Pemberton, Lime-street, City, merchant, December 19.

BANKRUPTS.

Hardin, G., High-street, Stoke Newington, linen-draper, January 1, February 10; solicitors, Messrs. Linklaters, Rise-lane.
Mortimer, J., Grosvenor-road, St. John's-road, builder, January 2, February 2; solicitor, Mr. Whitehouse, Bedford-row.
Batters, J., Tokenhouse-yard, City, soap-maker, January 9, February 2; solicitor, Mr. Wyatt, Verulam-buildings, Gray's-inn.
Gardner, N. J., Water-lane, City, commission agent, January 2, February 6; solicitor, Mr. Wyatt, Verulam-buildings, Gray's-inn.
Shepherd, H., Salisbury, grocer, January 2 and 30; solicitors, Messrs. Clarke and Morrice, Coleman-street, City; and Messrs. Hodding and Co., Salisbury.
Buckwell, W., and Jones, T., Duke-street, Southwark, dealers in stone, January 2, and 31; solicitor, Mr. Prescott, Austin-friars, City.
Gower, J., Lawrence-lane, City, warehouseman, January 4, February 9; solicitors, Messrs. Sole and Co., Aldermanbury.
Ginks, R., Hartlebury, Worcestershire, wheelwright, January 4 and 27; solicitors, Messrs. Boycot, Kidderminster; and Motteram and Knight, Birmingham.
Edwards, T., Shrewsbury, builder, January 3 and 24; solicitors, Mr. Morgan, Shrewsbury; and Motteram and Knight, Birmingham.
Poppleton, J., Leicester, lamb's wool spinner, January 9, February 6; solicitors, Messrs. Miles and Gregory, Leicester; and Mr. Hodgson, Birmingham.
Newman, G., Nottingham, hatter, January 9, February 6; solicitors, Mr. Bowley, Nottingham; and Mr. Hodgson, Birmingham.
Stoddart, J., North Leach, Gloucestershire, January 9, February 6; solicitors, Messrs. Sole and Co., Aldermanbury, City; and Messrs. Britain and Son, Bristol.
Chadwick, W., Liverpool, lime burner, January 4 and 29; solicitor, Mr. Dodge, Liverpool.
Highfield, S., Liverpool January 4 and 29; solicitors, Messrs. Townsend and Ridley, Liverpool.
Marshall, J., Todmorden, Yorkshire, cotton spinner, January 9, February 6.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.

White, C., Watford, Hertfordshire, sheep dealer, first div. of 2s. 7d., any Wednesday, at Mr. Whitmore's, Basinghall-street.
Cottman, H., Sandgate, Kent, grocer, first div. of 5s., any Wednesday, at Mr. Whitmore's, Basinghall-street.—May, C. H., Edgware-road, Marylebone, jeweller, first div. of 2s. 7d., any Wednesday, at Mr. Whitmore's, Basinghall-street.—Norbury, T. (separate estate), Manchester, silk manufacturer, first div. of 4s. 5d., January 2, and any subsequent Tuesday, at Mr. Fraser's, Manchester.—Crowther, J., Dickinson, W., jun., and Cave, B., Manchester, general salesmen, first div. of 6s. 8d., January 2, and any subsequent Tuesday, at Mr. Herniman's, Manchester.—Armstrong, W., and Hankey, W. O., Shrewsbury, tailors, first

div. of 4s. 6d., any Thursday, at Mr. Christie's, Birmingham.—Brooks, R., Blackburn and Blackpool, Lancashire, draper, first div. of 6s., January 9, and any subsequent Tuesday, at Mr. Fraser's, Manchester.—Burgin, J., Sheffield, tailor, second div. of 1s. 6d., and first and second divs., on new proofs, of 8s. 6d., December 23, and any subsequent Saturday, at Mr. Brewin's, Sheffield.—Fittes, J., and Fittes, R., Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and Gateshead, grocers, first div. of 5s. 7d., December 23, and any subsequent Saturday, at Mr. Baker's, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.

Livingston, D., Parkhead, Glasgow, wright, January 3.
Lamb, J., Glasgow, wright, January 4.
Rowand, M., Jun., Glasgow, sharebroker, January 3.

Tuesday, December 26th, 1854.

This "Gazette" contains a notice that the following place has been duly registered for the solemnization of marriages therein:—Corridor-room, St. Peter and St. Paul, Somerset.

BANKRUPTS.

Stannard, E. J., Trinity-square, Tower-hill, wine merchant, January 1, February 10; solicitors, Messrs. Ashurst, Son, and Morris, Old Jewry.
Lemon, W., Bridge-house-place, Newington-causeway, painter, January 1, February 16; solicitor, Mr. Rose, Salisbury-street, Strand.
Maidlow, C., Adelaide-terrace, Westbourne-grove, builder, January 9, February 2; solicitors, Messrs. Linklaters, Sise-lane.
Hall, J., Camden-town, wharfinger, January 9, February 6; solicitors, Messrs. Smith and Son, Barnard's-inn, Holborn.
Savill, H., Colchester, grocer, January 3, February 7; solicitors, Mr. Abell, Romney-terrace, Horseferry-road, Westminster; and Mr. Jones, Colchester.
Denham, S. T., Buckinghamshire, innkeeper, January 5, and February 1; solicitor, Mr. Spicer, Staple-inn.
Standen, T., Goudhurst, Kent, general dealer, January 4, and February 8; solicitors, Mr. Parker, St. Paul's-churchyard, and Mr. Hinds, Goudhurst, Kent.
Ekins, F. G., Greenwich, watchmaker, January 4, and February 8; solicitors, Messrs. Wealle and Berkeley, Temple-chambers, Falcon-court, Fleet-street.
Barton, L., Stafford, grocer, January 4 and 27; solicitors, Mr. Hand, Stafford; and Messrs. Mottram and Knight, Birmingham.
Warren, J., Bristol, hatter, January 10, and February 6; solicitors, Messrs. Beyan and Gilling, Bristol.
Evans, J., Exeter, bookseller, January 4, February 1; solicitor, Mr. Terrell, Exeter.
Hussey, G. B., Plymouth, innkeeper, January 8, February 5; solicitors, Messrs. Gibson and Moore, Plymouth.
Hannell, J., Manchester, tobaccoist, January 6, February 1; solicitors, Mr. Richardson, Bolton; and Messrs. Cobbett and Wheeler, Manchester.
Wright, E., Welwick, Holderness, Yorkshire, draper, January 10, February 7; solicitors, Messrs. Wells and Smith, Hull.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.

Smith, D., and Gardner, W., Glasgow, wrights, January 5.
M'Lintock, J., Greenock, bootmaker, January 3.
Macdonald, R., Glasgow, tea merchant, January 3.
Macnair, W., Glasgow, bookbinder, January 5.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.

Martindale, J., New Bond-street, wine merchant, final div. of 3d., on Thursday, the 28th inst., and three following Thursdays, at Mr. Stansfeld's, Basinghall-street.—Hertslet, L. C., Union-court, Old Broad-street, merchant, first div. of 13s. 2d., on the separate estate, on Thursday, the 28th inst., and three following Thursdays, at Mr. Stansfeld's, Basinghall-street.—Keith, D., Wood-street, warehouseman, first div. of 2s. 0d., on the separate estate, on Thursday, the 28th inst., and three following Thursdays, at Mr. Stansfeld's, Basinghall-street.—Farnworth, C., Upper Thames-street, tinplate merchant, final div. of 1 l. 10d., on Thursday, the 28th inst., and three following Thursdays, at Mr. Stansfeld's, Basinghall-street.—Clark, R. and Inglis, J., King's-cross, drapers, first div. of 3s., on Thursday, the 28th inst., and three following Thursdays, at Mr. Stansfeld's, Basinghall-street.—Holland, W. H., and Bradburn, Manchester, commission agents, first div. of 4d. on the separate estate of W. H. Holland, and first div. of 16s. on the separate estate of R. Bradburn, on Tuesday, January 9, or any subsequent Tuesday at Mr. Fraser's Manchester.—Langdale, S., Eytan, J., and Cooke, M. J., Newcastle-upon-Tyne, merchants, second div. of 1d. (in addition to 9d. previously declared), on Saturday, the 30th inst., or any subsequent Saturday, at Mr. Baker's, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Markets.

MARK LANE, LONDON, Friday, December 22, 1854.

There was a thin attendance at Mark-lane this morning, and the transactions were altogether on a retail scale. The show of English Wheat consisted of a few runs from Essex and Kent, left over from previous arrivals, owing to the want of condition. Anything really fine would probably have found ready buyers, but the ill-conditioned samples moved off somewhat slowly at last Monday's terms. The operations in foreign Wheat were not important, but needy buyers had to pay extreme terms, holders being far more inclined to advance than to lower their pretensions. Having had no arrivals off the coast, and their being at present very little Wheat on passage from ports east of Gibraltar, nothing has been done in floating cargoes. Flour was quite as dear today as earlier in the week. Barley moved off tardily, and barely sold so well as on Monday. Quotations of Malt remained nominally unaltered. The arrivals of Oats coastwise and from Ireland were small, and the supply from abroad moderate. Factors generally asked rather higher prices, which checked business; but where sales were made, somewhat enhanced terms were realized. No alteration requiring notice occurred in prices of Beans and Peas.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, December 25.

The show of foreign stock to-day was very moderate. With home-fed Beasts we were scantily supplied, nevertheless, as the attendance of butchers was limited, the Beef trade was in a sluggish state, at about stationary prices. The numbers of Sheep were small. On the whole, most breeds were in fair request, and last Monday's currency was supported. Very few Calves were on offer, and they mostly changed hands on former terms. Pigs were dull in sale, at the late decline.

Per 8lbs. to sink the offal.				s. d. s. d.			
s. d. s. d.				s. d. s. d.			
Coarse and inferior	3	6	3	8	Prime coarse wool-	4	6
Beasts	3	10	4	6	led Sheep	4	6
Second quality do.	3	10	4	6	Prime South Down	5	0
Prime large Oxen	4	8	4	10	Sheep	5	0
Prime large Oxen	4	8	4	10	Large coarse Calves	4	2
Prime Scots, &c.	5	0	5	2	Prime small do.	5	2
Coarse and inferior	3	8	3	10	Large Hogs	3	0
Sheep	3	8	3	10	Neat small Porkers	4	2
Second quality do.	4	0	4	4			

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, December 25.

The supplies of meat on sale in these markets to day were seasonably good. Generally speaking, the demand ruled inactive on the following terms.

Per 8lbs. by the carcass.				s. d. s. d.			
s. d. s. d.				s. d. s. d.			
Inferior Beef	3	2	3	4	Small Pork	3	10
Middling do.	3	6	3	8	Inferior Mutton	3	4
Prime large do.	3	10	4	2	Middling do.	3	10
Do. small do.	4	4	4	8	Prime do.	4	6
Large Pork	3	0	3	8	Veal	3	8

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Saturday, December 23.—The arrivals first week from Ireland were 6,514 firkins of butter, and 1,892 bales of bacon; and from foreign ports 7,949 casks of butter, and 393 bales of bacon. In the Irish butter market a moderate amount of business was transacted during the week at little or no variation in prices from our quotations of this day sen't night. Foreign in good supply. The bacon market continues in the same inactive state, prices range from 56s. to 61s. landed according to quality, &c. A supplementary contract for salt provisions was taken by the Government, it is said, for about 50,000 tierces of beef and pork, prices reported to range from 49 5s. to 41 15s. for beef, and 49 17s. 6d. to 41 10s. per tierce for pork.

PRICES OF BUTTER, CHEESE, HAMS, &c.

s. s. s. s.				s. s. s. s.			
s. s. s. s.				s. s. s. s.			
Friesland per cwt.	100	106	112	Cheshire (new) per cwt.	66	60	80
Kiel	104	112	116	Cheddar	68	60	80
Dorset	110	116	120	Double Gloucester	60	70	70
Carlisle	100	104	108	Single do.	56	66	66
Waterford	94	100	104	York Hams (new)	90	100	100
Cork (new)	92	100	104	Westmoreland, do.	90	96	96
Limerick	90	98	102	Irish do.	74	86	86
Sligo	96	102	108	Wiltshire Bacon (dried)	68	68	68
Fresh, per doz. 14s. 0d. 16s. 0d.				Do (green)	60	62	62

ENGLISH BUTTER MARKET, December 22.—Our trade is quite inactive, and hardly a sale is passing, although holders of butter are anxious to realize, and would accept much lower prices for all inferior and middling goods.

Dorset, fine 106s. to 108s. per cwt.
Do., middling 94s. to 96s. "
Fresh 10s. to 10s. per doz.

BREAD.—The prices of Wheat Bread in the Metropolis are from 10d. to 11d.; of Household do. 8d. to 9d. per 4lbs. loaf.
HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, December 25.—The hop market has not been very active for the past week, although the general currency for all good samples remains firm at fully recent quotations. Last week's import of foreign hops into London amounted to 197 bales from Antwerp, 697 from Ostend, 161 from Hambro', 23 from Calais, 177 from Rotterdam, 19 from Dunkirk, 25 from Bremen, and 320 from New York.

SEEDS.—Linseed and cakes continue in good request at full prices. Clover seed is dull in sale, but not cheaper. Most other seeds move off slowly, at late rates.

POTATOES, SOUTHWARK WATERSIDE, Saturday, Dec. 23.—During the past week the arrivals coastwise have been very limited, and still the trade is heavy for all sorts, excepting top samples of York Regents.

COVENT GARDEN, Saturday, Dec. 23.—Pears consist of Chaumontel, Glout Moreau, Winter Nellis, and Beurre Diel. Large importations of foreign Pears and Apples have arrived during the week. Hothouse Grapes continue good; among them are still some fine samples of Black Barbarosta. Oranges fetch from 2s. 6d. to 10s. per hundred; Chestnuts from 10s. to 20s. per bushel; Spanish Nuts from 14s. to 20s. per bushel; Barcelona, from 20s. to 24s.; French Almonds, 24s. per bushel, 60s. per cwt.; Kent Cobs, 180s. per 100 lbs.; and Brazil Nuts, 25s. per bushel. Cucumbers vary from 2s. to 3s. each. Spanish Onions may be bought for 2s. per dozen. Carrots and Turnips are abundant. Potatoes realize a heavy trade, at about last week's quotations. Lettuce fetch from 9d. to 1s. per score. Out flowers consist of Pelargoniums, Chrysanthemums, Camellias, Chinese Primrose, Heaths, Tree Carnations, and Roses.

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c.—We have had a slow sale for flax. In prices, however, no change has taken place. The market for hemp is dull. Clean outshot, 45s. to 46s. per ton. Coir goods are dull.

CHICORY, LONDON, Saturday, December 23.—This week's import has been only 32 bags from Hambro'. Although the demand is in a sluggish state, and we have large parcels on offer, prices are supported.

Foreign root (in 1/2 s. 1/2 s.)				Roasted & ground			
s. s. s. s.				s. s. s. s.			
(bond) Hartington 11	9	11	10	English	14	0	20
English root (free)				Foreign	30	0	36
Guernsey	9	0	10	Germany	26	0	28
York	9	0	10				

TALLOW.—Since our last report, our market has been steady, but by no means active, and prices have fluctuated to some extent. P.Y.C., on the spot has sold at from 63s. to 64s. per cwt. Rough fat is 3s. 6d. per lb.

COALS, Friday.—Hasting's Hartley, 17s. 6d.; Ravensworth West Hartley, 17s. 6d.; Tanfield Moor, 17s. 6d.; Tanfield Moor Butes, 17s. 3d.; Wyllam, 19s.; Harton, 18s. 6d.; Lawson, 17s. 6d.; Riddell, 18s.; Eden Main, 20s.; Braddyla, 20s. 6d.; South Hetton, 21s. 3d.; Stewart's, 21s. 6d.; Tees, 21s. 6d.; Whitworth, 19s.

OILS, Saturday, December 23.—Lined oil is firmer at 37s. 3d. per cwt. on the spot. Olive is dull in sale at our last quotations. There is more doing in cocoa-nut, at full prices. Fine palm is worth 44s. per ton. Several sales of sperm have been effected at 41s. to 42s.; pale seal, 44s.; pale southern, 44s.; cod, 44s. 10s. In Turpentine, very little is doing.

WOOL, Dec. 23.—Not the slightest improvement has taken place in the demand for any kind of English Wool. Prices are almost nominal; and to effect large sales, lower prices must be submitted to. The supply on offer is good.

COTTON, LIVERPOOL, Dec. 26.—The market closed steadily to-day, and prices of all kinds are unaltered. The sales were estimated at 5,000 to 6,000 bales—comprising 130 Parnam and Maranham, 34d. to 6d.; 30 Bahia, 6d.; 33 Egyptian, 7d.; 500 Surat, 3d. to 3d.; and 100 Sea Islands, 10d. to 21d. per lb.

PRODUCE MARKETS.

MINING-LANE, Dec. 26
To-day, as customary, has been considered nearly a close holiday, and the transactions have been but few and unimportant.

TALLOW has had a more firm appearance, and quoted 64s. 6d. Town, 65s. 6d.; rough fat, 3s. 6d. Arrived during the week, 1,465 casks; delivered, 1,647 casks; the present stock on hand is 32,705 casks; at the same period last year it was 44,303 casks.

PROVISIONS.—Butter, Irish: The market has been dull and inactive during the past week, and fine qualities only found buyers. Foreign has also been dull of sale. Bacon: The amount of business done has been small, but prices have been supported. Lard remains in fair demand.

OILS.—Seal, pale, 44s. 10s. to 44s. 10s.; straw, 44s. to 44s. 10s.; brown, 44s. 10s. to 44s. 10s.; sperm, body, 41s. to 41s. 10s.; head-matter, 41s. 10s. to 44s. 10s.; South Sea whale, 44s. to 44s. 10s.; olive, Gallipoli, 25s. 10s. to 25s. 10s.; Spanish and Sicily, 25s. 10s. to 25s. 10s.; cocoa nut, 49s. to 50s.; palm, 46s. to 48s. 6d.; linseed, 37s. 6d. to 38s.; rapeseed, pale, 54s. to 54s. 6d.; brown, 52s. to 52s. 6d.

Advertisements.

EDUCATION.—As JUNIOR

ASSISTANT, a Young Lady, who is capable of instructing in English, French, Music, and German, is desirous of obtaining an ENGAGEMENT in a first-class Ladies Establishment. References of the highest respectability can be given.—Address, L. W., Post-office, Newport, Isle of Wight.

TO MINISTERS, PROFESSIONAL MEN,

and OTHERS.—The Oxford Mixed Doeakin Trousers, price 21s. The Striatum Cloth Vest, 10s. 6d.; Casock ditto, 12s., the Clerical Frock Coat, 23 3s.; Dress Coat, 22 15s. S. BATTAM, Coat and Trousers Maker, 160, Tottenham-court-road; four doors south of Shoolbred and Co.'s. Patterns of materials and directions for measuring, sent free per post.

THE IDONEOUS TROUSERS.—An

excellent fitting Garment, unsurpassed for ease, elegance, and comfort, in sitting, walking, and ESPECIALLY RIDING. Modern and best materials only employed. First price, One Guinea. Also, a large assortment of every style of Garment suitable for the present season, ready for immediate use, or to order at moderate charges. Particulars for self-measurement, &c., sent by post.

HENRY L. MARSHALL, 516 and 517, New Oxford-street. Entrance corner of Duke-street, leading to the British Museum.

GRAND NATIONAL CEMETERY

FUNERAL COMPANY.—Having shares in three companies, about seven miles out of town, viz., at Finchley, Tooting, and Harrow, will undertake Adult Carriage Funerals and a Grave at either of the above cemeteries at the following charges:—First Class, £10. Second Class, £8. Third Class, £3 10s. Children's Carriage Funeral and Grave, £1 10s. The above includes every charge for the whole funeral.—Address, ANTILL and COMPANY, 65, Judd-street, New-road, and 150, Blackfriars-road, London.

THE EMPRESS of CHINA'S TEA,

recommended by the Faculty for its Purity, and sold by nearly 1,000 First Class Tea Dealers on account of its Superior Quality.

THIS IS NOW THE POPULAR TEA OF THE DAY, and the best 4s. Tea in the Kingdom.

MOORE AND CO., LITTLE TOWER-STREET, LONDON.

* Agents wanted where none are appointed.

TO VISITORS to the NEW CRYSTAL

PALACE!—HINT to MOTHERS!—ATKINSON and BARKER'S ROYAL INFANTS' PRESERVATIVE (Established in the year 1793) is the best medicine that can possibly be given to infants and young children, and, as its name implies, is a real preservative of INFANTS in their numerous disorders, affording INSTANT RELIEF in CONVULSIONS, FLATULENCY, AFFECTIONS of the BOWELS, DIFFICULT TEETHING, RICKETS, MEASLES, &c., &c. It STANDS UNRIVALLED, and is so perfectly INNOCENT, that it may be given immediately after birth. Thousands of children are annually saved by this much esteemed medicine.—One trial will prove more than words can express.

Prepared only by ROBERT BARKER, Hall Bank, Bowdon, near Manchester (Chemist to Her Most Gracious Majesty, Queen Victoria), in bottles at 1s. 1d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d. each.

CAUTION.—Observe the names of "ATKINSON and BARKER" on the Government Stamp.

Sold by all druggists and medicine vendors throughout the United Kingdom.

CROGGON'S PATENT ASPHALTE

ROOFING FELT has been extensively used and pronounced efficient, and particularly applicable to WARM CLIMATES. It is a non-conductor.—It is portable, being packed in rolls, and not liable to damage in carriage.—It effects a saving of half the timber usually required.—It can be easily applied by any unpractised person.—From its lightness, weighing only 42lbs to the square of 100 feet, the cost of carriage is small.—UNDER SLATES, &c., in Church and other Roofs, the Felt has been extensively used to REGULATE THE TEMPERATURE.

INODOROUS FELT, for damp walls; and for damp floors under carpets and floor cloths; also for LINING IRON HOUSES, to equalize the temperature.

PRICE ONE PENNY PER SQUARE FOOT.

PATENT FELTED SHEATHING for covering Ships' Bottoms, &c.

DRY HAIR FELT, for Deadening Sound, and Covering Steam Boilers, Pipes, &c., preventing the Radiation of Heat, thereby saving TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT. OF FUEL.

Samples, Testimonials, and full instructions, on application to CROGGON and Co., DOWGATE-HILL, LONDON.

TEETH.—MR. GREGSON, Practical

Surgeon-Dentist, 7, Holles-street, Cavendish-square, invites attention to his improved method of adapting ARTIFICIAL TEETH of all kinds. From his long experience in the actual manipulation and construction of dental mechanism, patients may rely on receiving the very best description on the most reasonable terms, and thereby secure as complete comfort in mastication and articulation, as art can accomplish. All operations in Dentistry particularly attended to.

7, HOLLES-STREET, CAVENDISH-SQUARE.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.—The most

appropriate offerings for this Season of Festivity, are those which tend to the promotion of Health and Personal Attraction: none can be more acceptable than

ROWLANDS' MACASSAR OIL.

For imparting a transcendent lustre to the Hair, and sustaining it in decorative charm.

ROWLANDS' KALYDOR

Imparts a radiant bloom to the Cheek, and a delicacy and softness to the Hands, Arms, and Neck; and

ROWLANDS' ODONTO, or PEARL DENTRIFICE,

Bestows on the Teeth a Pearl-like whiteness, and renders the Breath sweet and pure.

The Patronage of Royalty throughout Europe, their general use by Rank and Fashion, and the universally-known efficacy of these articles give them a celebrity unparalleled.

Sold by A. ROWLAND and SONS, 20, Hatten-garden, London, and by Chemists and Perfumers.

BEWARE OF SPURIOUS IMITATIONS!

CONVULSIONS IN TEETHING.

MRS. JOHNSON'S AMERICAN

SOOTHING SYRUP.—This efficacious Remedy has been in general use for upwards of Thirty Years, and has preserved numerous Children when suffering from Convulsions arising from Painful Dentition. As soon as the Syrup is rubbed on the gums the child will be relieved, the gums cooled, and the inflammation reduced. It is as innocent as efficacious, tending to produce the Teeth with ease; and so pleasant that no child will refuse to let its gums be rubbed with it. Parents should be very particular to ask for JOHNSON'S AMERICAN SOOTHING SYRUP, and to notice that the names of BARCLAY and SONS, 95, FARRINGTON-STREET, LONDON (to whom Mrs. Johnson has sold the recipe), are on the stamp affixed to each bottle.—Price 2s. 9d. per bottle.

TO INVALIDS.—COOPER'S ILLUS-

TRATED CATALOGUE OF MEDICAL APPARATUS, DRUGS, &c., forwarded free by Post. Superior Brass Anema Apparatus, 10s. Pocket Medicine Cases for travelling, 10s. Stopped Bottles in Boxwood cases, from 1s. Medicated Lotions, 3s. 6d. per lb. Selditz Powders, 1s. per Box. Bermuda Arrow Root, 2s. per lb.; with every Medicine of the purest quality only, at a considerable reduction on the usual charges, at WILLIAM T. COOPER'S Dispensing Establishment, 26, Oxford-street, London.

PATENT GUTTA PERCHA SOLES.—

The Gutta Percha Company have pleasure in requesting the attention of the Public to the following selection of Extracts of Letters from Medical Men relative to their Gutta Percha Soles.

"There is scarcely any one circumstance on which the healthy functions of internal and vital organs so much depends as on the preservation of the warmth and dryness of the feet: and the peculiar non-conducting and electric properties of Gutta Percha render it invaluable equally in cold and hot weather, when affixed to the soles of boots and shoes. I would urge every one to use it who appreciates the inestimable blessings of health."—From Dr. CONQUEST, F.R.S., London.

"Of inestimable value, both as a preventive of disease, and preservative of health."—J. MURRAY, Esq., M.D., Hull.

"Quite impervious to wet. The use of them must be conducive to health."—J. OAKES, Esq., Surgeon, Worcester.

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ALLSOPP'S PALE ALES in BOTTLE
as supplied to the Crystal Palace.—Also in Casks of Eighteen gallons.
Recommended by Baron Liebig.
Address—HARRINGTON PARKER and Co., 54, Pall Mall London.

MONEY!—ESTABLISHED, 1849.
LOANS, from £5 to £50, on Personal Security of the Borrower, to be repaid by small Weekly, Monthly, or Quarterly Instalments, as may suit the convenience of the Borrower. A form of application and particulars sent to any part, on receipt of four postage stamps, and a stamped directed envelope. Office (private), 16, Penton-street, Pentonville, London.
T. SHORT, Secretary.

HAISE'S SCORBUTIC DROPS.—This is a wonderful purifier of the blood, and a sure cure for all SCORBUTIC ERUPTIONS, making all impurities vanish from the system as snow before the sun.
Price 2s. 9d. and 11s. a bottle.
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ARMSTRONG'S FRENCH COLZA OIL,
4s. 9d., and Camphine, 5s. per gallon; best Dip Candles, 8s.; Price's Composites, 9s., 10s. 6d., 11s. 6d., and Night Mortars, 6s. 6d. per dozen. Old Pale Yellow Soap, 48s. and 42s., and Household Yellow, 37s. per 112 pounds; Honey and Windsor, 1s. per packet. Price Lists sent.—42, Old Bond-street, Piccadilly.

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CLEANERS, from 6s. each. Will last twenty years, and sharpens at same time.
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CLEANERS, 8s. 6d. each. Cleaning all the prongs at once.
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SERVICE RAZOR STROPS from 2s. The effect is marvellous.
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CUTTER and SONS respectfully state that they are prepared to contract for the erection of their IMPROVED VENTILATING AIR STOVES, for effectually and economically warming Chapels, &c., which they undertake in every instance to guarantee as well as their durability.
A Stove may be seen in constant use at their Warehouse, 16, Great Queen-street, Long-Acre.

ESTABLISHED 1726.—CHAPLIN AND LAMBERT.—TALLOW MELTERS, CANDLE AND SOAP MANUFACTURERS, OIL, AND ITALIAN WAREHOUSEMEN, beg to inform their numerous friends and others who are about to lay in their winter's stock, that every article supplied at their Establishment is of first-rate quality, and charged at the lowest remunerative price. A list of articles, with prices annexed, sent, post free, on application. Orders, with remittances, promptly executed, and delivered at any of the Metropolitan Railway Stations. C. and L. particularly recommend their

TOWN TALLOW-MADE CANDLES.
Price's and Palmer's Composite and Metallic Candles, at Manufacturers' Prices.
89 and 90, LEATHER-LANE, HOLBORN, LONDON.

ABSTRACT REGARDING ECONOMY
in CLOTHES, from the Times, October 26th, 1854.
"Every yard of cloth sold at The London Cloth Establishment is sold at the Wholesale Price, and gentlemen who purchase cloth at the London Cloth Establishment may (if they wish) have it made up on the premises, at the expense only of the workman's wages, in addition to the price of the trimmings."
The economy of this system is proved by the saving of from 30 to 50 per cent. in the price of every garment, besides the very obvious advantage of selection from such a stock, and the guarantee of a superior fit, good taste, and the best work.

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HENRY'S CALCINED MAGNESIA
continues to be prepared with the most scrupulous care and attention, by Messrs. THOMAS and WILLIAM HENRY, Manufacturing Chemists, Manchester. It is sold in bottles, price 2s. 9d., or with glass stoppers, at 4s. 6d., stamp included, with full directions for its use, by their various agents in the metropolis, and throughout the United Kingdom; but it cannot be genuine unless their names are engraved on the Government stamp, which is fixed over the cork or stopper of each bottle.

Sold in London, wholesale, by Messrs. Barclay and Sons, Farringdon-street; Sutton and Co., Bow Church-yard; Newberry and Sons, E. Edwards, Thomas Butler, St. Paul's Church-yard; Savory and Co., New Bond-street; Sanger, Oxford-street; and of most of the vendors of the Magnesia may be had, authenticated by a similar stamp, HENRY'S AROMATIC SPIRIT OF VINEGAR, the invention of Mr. HENRY, and the only genuine preparation of that article.

SYDENHAM TROUSERS, 17s. 6d.
SAMUEL BROTHERS, 29, LUDGATE-HILL, Inventors and Sole Manufacturers of the SYDENHAM TROUSERS, at 17s. 6d. Unequalled for Superior Style, Fit, Quality, Perfect Ease, and Gracefulness, so requisite for gentlemanly appearance, and so rarely obtained. The advantage of the SYDENHAM TROUSERS over all others is the systematic self-adjusting principle on which they are constructed. Patterns and Guide to Self-measurement sent free.

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Ready-made Clothes equal to bespoke—an advantage of to be obtained at any other Establishment.

Dress Coats 21s. to 42s. Talma 5s. to 50s.
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Albion Over-Coat 21s. to 42s. The New Circular
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A Four-Pound Suit, Samuel Brothers strongly recommend, made from Saxony Cloth, manufactured by an eminent West-of-England House, the wear of which they warrant. Patterns, &c., sent free.

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The statistical accounts presented by the Customs to the House of Commons prove that Messrs. Futvoye are by far the largest importers. 500 of the most elegant and classical designs in ornamental glass shade and stand complete, from 2 to 100 guineas may be inspected at 154, Regent-street, corner of Beak-street.

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INFANT CARRIAGE WORKS.—

T. TROTMAN, Inventor and Maker of the Patent Registered Infant's Safety Promenade, and Patent Registered Safety Scroll Guard for back of Infant's Carriage, High-street, Camden-town, and Baker-street Carriage Bazaar, Portman square, London.

It used to be in days of yore,
The servant had the child to draw
Came dragging it behind;
But now behold the darling's joy,
Mamma can walk with girl and boy,
Propelling them before.

Camden Infant's Carriage Works, High-street, Camden-town.

SIR JAMES MURRAY'S FLUID
MAGNESIA. Prepared under the immediate care of the Inventor, and established for upwards of thirty years by the profession, for removing BILE, ACIDITIES, and INDIGESTION, restoring APPETITE, preserving a moderate state of the bowels, and dissolving uric acid in GRAVEL and GOUT; also a safe remedy for SEA SICKNESS, and for the febrile affection incident to childhood it is invaluable.—On the value of Magnesia as a remedial agent it is unnecessary to enlarge; but the Fluid Preparation of Sir James Murray is now the most valued by the profession, as it entirely avoids the possibility of those dangerous concretions usually resulting from the use of the article in powder.

Sold by the sole consignee, Mr WILLIAM BAILEY, of Wolverhampton; and by all wholesale and retail Druggists, and Medicine Agents throughout the British Empire, in bottles, 1s., 2s. 6d., 3s. 6d., 6s. 6d., 11s., and 21s. each.

The Acidulated Syrup in Bottles, 2s. each.

N.B.—Be sure to ask for "Sir James Murray's Preparation," and to see that his name is stamped on each label, in green ink, as follows:—"James Murray, Physician to the Lord Lieutenant."

DEAFNESS and NOISES in the EARS.—

EXTRAORDINARY DISCOVERY.—Just Published, price 7d., by post, Certain Mode of Self-Cure. Any partially or extremely deaf person can permanently Restore their own Hearing. Distressing noises in the Head relieved in Half-an-hour. This book has cured hundreds, living in the most distant part of the world, without absence from home or business. It is published by Dr. HOGHTON, Member of the London Royal College of Surgeons, May 2, 1845, L.A.O. April 30, 1846, Consulting Surgeon to the Institution for the Cure of Deafness, 9, Suffolk-place, Pall-mall.

Sent free to any part, on receipt of letter, enclosing Seven Postage-stamps, A HINT and HELP, for the benefit and protection of deaf persons, a stop to Quackery, extortionate fees, and charges. By this new discovery, totally deaf sufferers are enabled to hear conversation, without any ear-trumpet or instrument, for ever rescuing them from the grasp of the extortionate and dangerous Empiric. It contains startling cures, deaf persons having cured themselves, many instantaneously effected. All letters to be directed to Dr. Houghton, 9, Suffolk-place, Pall-mall, London. Patients received any day from 12 till 4. Consultation free.

TEETH.—By Her Majesty's Royal Letters

Patent.—Newly-invented and Patented application of Chemically-prepared White India-rubber in the construction of Artificial Teeth, Gums, and Palates.—Mr. EPHRAIM MOSELY, Surgeon Dentist, 61, LOWER GROSVENOR STREET, Grosvenor-square, sole INVENTOR and PATENTEE.

A new, original, and valuable invention, consisting in the adaptation, with the most absolute perfection and success, of CHEMICALLY-PREPARED WHITE INDIA-RUBBER as a lining to the ordinary gold or bone frame. The extraordinary results of this application may be briefly noted in a few of their most prominent features, as the following:—All sharp edges are avoided; no springs, wires, or fastenings are required; a greatly increased freedom of suction is supplied; a natural elasticity hitherto wholly unattainable, and a fit perfected with the most unerring accuracy, is secured; while, from the softness and flexibility of the agent employed, the greatest support is given to the adjoining teeth when loose, or rendered tender by the absorption of the gums. The acids of the mouth exert no agency on the chemically-prepared white INDIA-RUBBER, and as it is a non-conductor, fluids of any temperature may with thorough comfort be imbibed and retained in the mouth, all unpleasantness of smell or taste being at the same time wholly provided against by the peculiar nature of its preparation.—To be obtained only at 61, LOWER GROSVENOR-STREET, LONDON; 22, Gay-street, Bath; and 10, Eldon-square, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

TO NERVOUS SUFFERERS.—

A Retired Clergyman, having been restored to health in a few days after many years of great nervous suffering, is anxious to make known to others the Means of Cure: and will, therefore, send free, on receiving a stamped envelope, properly addressed, a copy of the prescription used.—Direct the Rev. E. DOUGLASS, 18, Holland-street, Brixton, London

RUPTURES—BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

WHITE'S MOC-MAIN PATENT

LEVER TRUSS, requiring no steel spring round the body, is recommended for the following peculiarities and advantages:—1st, Facility of application; 2nd, Perfect freedom from liability to chafe or excoriate; 3rd, It may be worn with equal comfort in any position of the body, by night or day; 4th, It admits of every kind of exercise without the slightest inconvenience to the wearer, and is perfectly concealed from observation.

"We do not hesitate to give to this invention our unqualified approbation, and we strenuously advise the use of it to all those who stand in need of that protection, which they cannot so fully, nor with the same comfort, obtain from any other apparatus or truss as from that which we have the highest satisfaction in thus recommending."—Church and State Gazette.

Recommended by the following eminent Surgeons:—William Fergusson, Esq., F.R.S., Professor of Surgery in King's College, Surgeon to King's College Hospital, &c.; C. G. Guthrie, Esq., Surgeon to the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital; W. Bowman, Esq., F.R.S., Assistant-Surgeon to King's College Hospital; T. Callaway, Esq., Senior Assistant-Surgeon to Guy's Hospital; W. Coulson, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the Magdalene Hospital; T. Blizard Curling, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the London Hospital; W. J. Fisher, Esq., Surgeon-in-Chief to the Metropolitan Police Force; Aston Key, Esq., Surgeon to Prince Albert; Robert Liston, Esq., F.R.S.; James Luke, Esq., Surgeon to the London Truss Society; Erasmus Wilson, Esq., F.R.S.; and many others.

A Descriptive Circular may be had by post, and the Truss (which cannot fail to fit) can be forwarded by post, on sending the circumference of the body, two inches below the hips, to the Manufacturer

Mr. WHITE, 228, PICCADILLY, LONDON.

Price of a Single Truss, 16s., 21s., 26s. 6d., and 31s. 6d. Postage, 1s.

Price of a Double Truss, 31s. 6d., 42s., and 52s. 8d. Postage, 1s. 6d.

Post-office Orders to be made payable to John White, Post-office, Piccadilly.

ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEECAPS, &c.

The material of which these are made is recommended by the Faculty as being peculiarly elastic and compressible, and the best invention for giving efficient and permanent support in all cases of WEAKNESS and swelling of the LEGS, VARICOSE VEINS, SPRAINS, &c. It is porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and is drawn on like an ordinary stocking. Price from 7s. 6d. to 16s. each. Postage 6d.

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OLD JACOB TOWNSEND'S

AMERICAN SARSAPARILLA.—This is one of the most extraordinary and valuable Medicines in the world. Its superiority over other preparations of like character, made in this country, arises from the mode of manufacture, and the advantage of obtaining and working the root in its green and fresh state. The root, when brought to this country, is dry, rapid, and almost tasteless, its virtues and juices having all evaporated; while it often becomes mouldy, musty, and partially decayed, so that it is quite unfit for use.

ENGLISH TESTIMONY.

We give a few of the many communications we have received since we have been in England, from those who have experienced the great benefits of using this celebrated medicine. They must have some weight in convincing the public of its great value.

49, Davies-street, Berkeley-square, Sept. 1, 1851.

Gentlemen,—I have much pleasure in testifying to the numerous thanks I have received from various persons who have taken Old Dr. Jacob Townsend's Sarsaparilla, many of whom will be happy to give you testimonials should you require them. I am doubly pleased to be able to speak to the good effects I have seen myself produced by the Sarsaparilla, for I must confess that, although I was not prejudicial, I was rather sceptical as to its virtues, which I would not have believed it possessed, had I not seen it.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
JOHN JAIMERSON.

FURTHER IMPORTANT TESTIMONY.

GREAT CURE OF PILES.

17, Phelps-street, Walworth, Feb. 22, 1853.

Gentlemen,—I was afflicted with the blind Piles, and was under medical treatment for three months, but obtained no relief. Hearing of Old Dr. Jacob Townsend's Sarsaparilla, I obtained some, and, after taking it a short time, the accumulated corrupt matter copiously discharged, and I almost immediately obtained relief. I still continued its use for a time, and not only found relief but a cure, and am now free from pain. I most sincerely recommend it to all who are similarly affected.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
WM. HYDE.

FEMALE COMPLAINTS.

GREAT CURE OF NERVOUSNESS.

London, June 10, 1852.

Gentlemen,—My wife has been long afflicted with a nervous complaint, from which she suffered severely. Able physicians and many remedies were tried in vain, but I am happy to inform you that she has entirely recovered by using a few bottles of Old Dr. Townsend's Sarsaparilla.
J. R. PETERSON.

PIMPLES, BLOTCHES, ERUPTIONS, &c.

The same may be said of these as in the cure of the several chronic maladies, the Sarsaparilla and the Ointment will effectually wipe off all disagreeable eruptions, and render the surface clear and beautiful. Ladies troubled with rough, pimply skin, or a gross, masculine surface, will do well to use these Medicines if they wish clear, delicate, and transparent complexions. Nothing can exceed their efficacy in this respect.

CURE OF A DISORDERED STOMACH.

Lower Grosvenor-street, Grosvenor-Square, July 31, 1851.

Gentlemen,—I beg to inform you that I have been using your Medicine, Dr. Townsend's Sarsaparilla, for a complaint in my stomach, from which I suffered a long time, and I am happy to say it has cured me. I shall be happy to answer any letter of inquiry, as I am satisfied your Sarsaparilla is worthy of all the recommendation I can give it.
JAMES FORSYTH.

SICK HEADACHE—A CASE OF MANY YEARS' STANDING.

The following is one of those cases arising from a disordered state of the uterine functions, which affect the whole system, and bring on some of the most distressing sufferings. This lady has suffered more or less for ten years, and is now entirely recovered by the use of Dr. Townsend's Sarsaparilla. She says:—

Berkeley-square, Jan. 15, 1853.

Messrs. Pomeroy and Co.—I have used your Dr. Townsend's Sarsaparilla for sick headache and general debility, arising from a disordered state of my system, and am happy to inform you that it has completely restored me to former health and strength. I experience a degree of comfort, buoyancy of spirits, and renewed strength, which I have not known for ten years. This great benefit alone induces me to write you an acknowledgment. Disliking my name in full to go before the public, I give my initials only.

"Mrs. E. W. T. C."

Half pints, 2s. 6d.; Pints, 4s.; Quarts, 7s. 6d.; and Mammoth, 11s.; Six Mammoths sent free for 60s.

POMEROY, ANDREWS, AND CO., SOLE PROPRIETORS, Warehouse, 373, Strand, London.

HOT AIR, GAS, VESTA, JOYCE'S

STOVES.—STOVES for the economical and safe heating of halls, shops, warehouses, passages, basements, and the like, being at this season demanded, WILLIAM S. BURTON invites attention to his unrivalled assortment, adapted (one or the other) to every conceivable requirement, at prices from 10s. each to 30 guineas. His variety of register and other stoves is the largest in existence.

WILLIAM S. BURTON has TEN LARGE SHOW ROOMS devoted to the show of GENERAL FURNISHING IRONMONGERY (including Cutlery, Nickel Silver, Plated and Japanned Wares, Iron and Brass Bedsteads), so arranged and classified that purchasers may easily and at once make their selections.

Catalogues, with engravings, sent (per post) free. The money returned for every article not approved of.

29, OXFORD-STREET (corner of Newman-street); 1, 2, and 3, NEWMAN-STREET; and 4 and 5, PERRY'S-PLACE.

DEAFNESS.

New and important medical discovery, published this day, and sent free by post for eight postage stamps.

DEAFNESS, Noises in the Ears (CURE YOURSELF).

A Medical Guide for the cure of country patients, by a Physician, Dr. HENRY MANFRED, Auriat, M.R.C.S., 72, Regent-street, London. This work has been the means of curing numbers, and rescued them from sacrificing both purse and patience at the shrine of quackery. Any deaf sufferer is enabled to hear the usual tone of conversation in a few hours, by means which can with safety be applied to an infant.

Dr. MANFRED, Member of the Edinburgh Royal College of Surgeons, receives patients daily, from ten until six, at his residence, 72, Regent-street, London, (first door in Air-street,) where all letters must be addressed.

THE HAVERFORDWEST AND MILFORD-HAVEN TELEGRAPH.

Reporter for the counties of Pembroke, Cardigan, Carmarthen, Glamorgan, and the rest of South Wales.

The TELEGRAPH is the only mid-week paper published within a distance of sixty miles. It gives all the latest foreign and domestic news up to the moment of going to press and thus anticipates all its local contemporaries in the news of the week.

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As a FAMILY JOURNAL it is unequalled. The proprietors having resolved to exclude all objectionable advertisements and other offensive matter, causes it to be taken widely as a family paper.

As an ADVERTISING MEDIUM it has claims of a superior order. It is emphatically the organ of the commercial and agricultural bodies, and is supported extensively by the middle and higher classes. Apart from its circulation in Pembroke-shire, where it has by far a larger circulation than any other paper—it has a wide and constantly increasing circulation in Cardiganshire, Glamorganshire, and Glamorganshire, and in all the important mining districts of South Wales.

Terms for Advertisements &c. may be known, and Advertisements and Books for Review received by Mr. O. Mitchell, Red Lion-court, Fleet-street; Mr. Joseph Lee, Billiter-square, Fenchurch-street; Messrs. Marlborough and Co., Ave Maria-lane; and by all the principal London agents as well as by the publisher.

Published every Wednesday morning, price 4d., by John Rees Davis, High-street, Haverfordwest.

A SUPPLEMENT, GRATIS, with the WEEKLY DISPATCH, every week until further notice.

The unexampled interest which attaches to every incident connected with the operation of the Allied Armies in the East has determined the Proprietors of the *Weekly Dispatch* to devote a greater space to the intelligence from the seat of war than the ordinary limits of this, the largest newspaper published, could possibly afford, and, with the view of giving the simplest details, they have resolved upon the issue of a

SERIES OF SUPPLEMENTS, GRATIS, which will include every particular of interest connected with the siege and decision of the contest at Sebastopol, and will be continued whenever demanded by the progress of the Campaign.

By the publication of these Supplements the portion of the paper usually devoted to incidents of domestic and political importance will be reserved intact, and the engrossing subject of the War will receive the fullest and most varied illustration.

A SUPPLEMENT will be published on SUNDAY NEXT (gratis), and on every succeeding week until further notice.

Orders may be given to all News-vendors in town and country; and to the Publisher, at the Dispatch Office, 125, Fleet-street.

NEW WEEKLY PAPER.

On Wednesday, January 24th, 1855, will be published, price Fourpence Halfpenny, No. 1, of a New Weekly Paper, TO BE DEVOTED MORE PARTICULARLY TO THE RELIGIOUS INTERESTS OF THE BAPTIST DENOMINATION,

TO BE CALLED,

THE FREEMAN.

"The Liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free."

Regarding the interests of the Baptist denomination as in no way separable from those of the whole church of Christ, and yet as constituting a field of spiritual effort to which Baptists are bound, by conscientious obligations, to devote their energies, the promoters of "The Freeman" design it to be at once DENOMINATIONAL AND CATHOLIC—a position which, in their view, involves no contradiction, unless fidelity to minor truths is held to be absolutely inconsistent with a strong and cordial attachment to those more comprehensive principles which unite in "one body" all of every name who profess allegiance to the common Lord.

Intended for the special use of a Christian denomination, and guided consequently in its discussions of all public questions by the essential principles of Christianity, "The Freeman" will yet carefully avoid that spirit of assumption and dictation, and those discussions of questions affecting the peace and the internal affairs of individual churches, which have generated such strong objections to the class of religious newspapers. It is intended to be a first-rate Family paper, to supply fully all the political and commercial information of the day, and at the same time to give more scope than can be afforded by any existing journal, to the special interests of the Baptist denomination.

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